



**Gary Limjap**  
(310) 430-0818

In today's real estate climate ...  
**Experience counts!**

garylimjap@gmail.com www.garylimjap.com



**COLDWELL BANKER  
REALTY**

CalRE # 00927151

- 2 **Burning homes**  
To help protect them
- 3 **Slow elections**  
Too many ballots



- 4 **Hospice fraud**  
In plain sight
- 9 **Comics**  
Plus word search

Volume 25 Issue 110

WEDNESDAY 4/22/26

smdp.com

# Surge of casual cafes and eateries opening in the City



Courtesy Photo

**FOOD:** Bower Santa Monica is opening at the Colorado Center in the coming months.

**MATTHEW HALL**  
Daily Press Editor

A surf-inspired, all-day restaurant and community hub is set to open this summer at Colorado Center, joining a wave of new cafes and

casual eateries taking shape across Santa Monica.

Bower Santa Monica, spanning approximately 6,500 square feet, will offer food and beverage, health and wellness programming and what its creators describe as "socialization

rituals" at the 15-acre office campus at Colorado Center. BXP, the largest publicly traded developer, owner and manager of premier workplaces in the United States, announced the concept April 15 alongside restaurateur Dave Harper and New

School Hospitality.

Harper, the founding partner of Amigo Roasters and the restaurateur behind community-focused venues including Bondi Harvest, El

SEE RESTAURANT PAGE 8

# Santa Monica Council takes up SB 9 zoning overhaul to align with state Housing Law

**MAAZ ALIN**  
SMDP Staff Writer

The Santa Monica City Council voted April 14 to advance an ordinance realigning the city's implementation of Senate Bill 9 with state law, while amending staff's recommendation to retain a minimum guaranteed housing unit

SEE COUNCIL PAGE 5

# LAHSA to lay off 284 workers as County shifts homelessness response

**MATTHEW HALL**  
Daily Press Editor

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority will issue layoff notices to 284 employees on April 30 as the agency undergoes a sweeping restructuring driven by the county's decision to pull more than \$300 million in annual funding and stand up its own homelessness department.

LAHSA notified SEIU Local 721, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, the mayor

SEE LAHSA PAGE 11

**Buy Local**  
SANTA MONICA

buylocal.santamonica.com

Support your community!

**TAXES**  
ALL FORMS, ALL TYPES, ALL STATES

BACK TAXES • BOOKKEEPING • SMALL BUSINESS

**SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA**

**(310) 395-9922**

100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1753 • Santa Monica 90401

**KEEP IT MOVING**  
Professional Movers

You Pick the Location  
We will take care of the rest

Call us Now:  
**(310) 430-3226**

# As the planet warms, scientists burn homes to figure out how to best protect them in wildfires

It took less than three minutes for wind-whipped flames to go from licking the side of the house to shattering a window and working under the eaves to burn everything inside. Weeks later, another house in the exact same spot was burning — again in the name of science.

That home went up in flames slower because it was fortified with better materials. Add moving vegetation, mulch, wood fences and hot tubs with their highly flammable insulation several feet away and experts said you can protect houses from the increasing danger of wildfires on a warming planet.

The research is being done by workers at a remote site in South Carolina. They have set fire to 13 houses because scientists need to burn to learn.

Inside the carefully crafted home were sensors and a few cameras the site's manager said will "give their life for science." Outside are nearly \$1 million of other cameras and instruments in a fireproof building nearby and scattered around.

The Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety is a nonprofit created by insurers to make houses and other buildings more resilient. The institute's 100-acre (40-hectare) site in Richburg, South Carolina, started to study hurricanes and heavy wind and rain.

As wildfire danger increased in recent years, they sometimes turn the six-story tall wall of 105 fans stacked on top of each other to blow out of the wind tunnel's massive doors and spread fire.

"We crash test houses," said Roy Wright, the president of the institute.

## WILDFIRES ARE WORSENING, COSTING MORE DAMAGE

From 2016 to 2025, wildfires in the United States on average burned an area the size of Massachusetts each year, slightly more than 11,000 square miles (28,500 square kilometers). That's 2.6 times the average burn area of the 1980s, according to the National Interagency Fire Center. Canada's land burned on average for the last 10 years is 2.8 times more than during the 1980s, according to the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre.

In the United States, wildfires have caused an average of \$17.7 billion a year in damage since 2020, according to statistics kept by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the nonprofit Climate Central.

Climate change is intensifying and extending fire seasons across the U.S. and a growing population puts densely packed neighborhoods into fire-threatened areas. In the past three years, massive and devastating wildfires hit California, Maui in Hawaii and the North and South Carolina mountains.

Drought across much of the United States — especially in the West and Southeast — is at record severe levels for this time of year. Add to that record heat and unheard of levels of low moisture in the West for the first three months of 2026 and it looks like this upcoming fire season will be extraordinarily

“It’s kind of like if you live in the snow, you have a snow shovel, you have scrapers, and you know that you have to take certain preventative steps in order to live in an environment that, hey, sometimes snows

- Nicholai Allen

bad, unless late spring or early summer rain somehow bails out the country, said UCLA climate and fire scientist Park Williams.

## TEST FIRES LEAD TO BUILDING CHANGES

The institute's research has already led to some conclusions that strengthened California's fire code. New homes must have ignition-resistant walls, tempered or double paned windows and mesh over vents to prevent fire embers from getting inside.

As important is taking care of the outside. Creating a 5-foot buffer where any material that burns easy like pine straw, a hot tub, a wooden fence or overhanging branches is an important line of defense.

The fire testing makes that clear. Researchers at the test site set fire to wooden blocks that look like Jenga towers within the buffer zone. The simulated winds, which in a recent test purposefully fluctuated between 30 and 55 mph, continually pushed the flames toward the home.

Once the windows and walls are breached, all the combustible things inside like couches, furniture, clothes and plastics quickly erupt and begin sending large showers of dangerous burning embers lofted by heavy wind, setting new fires a block or two away.

But fire standards can only help so much. "Under really severe fire conditions, especially those involving very high winds, they probably are of more limited value,"

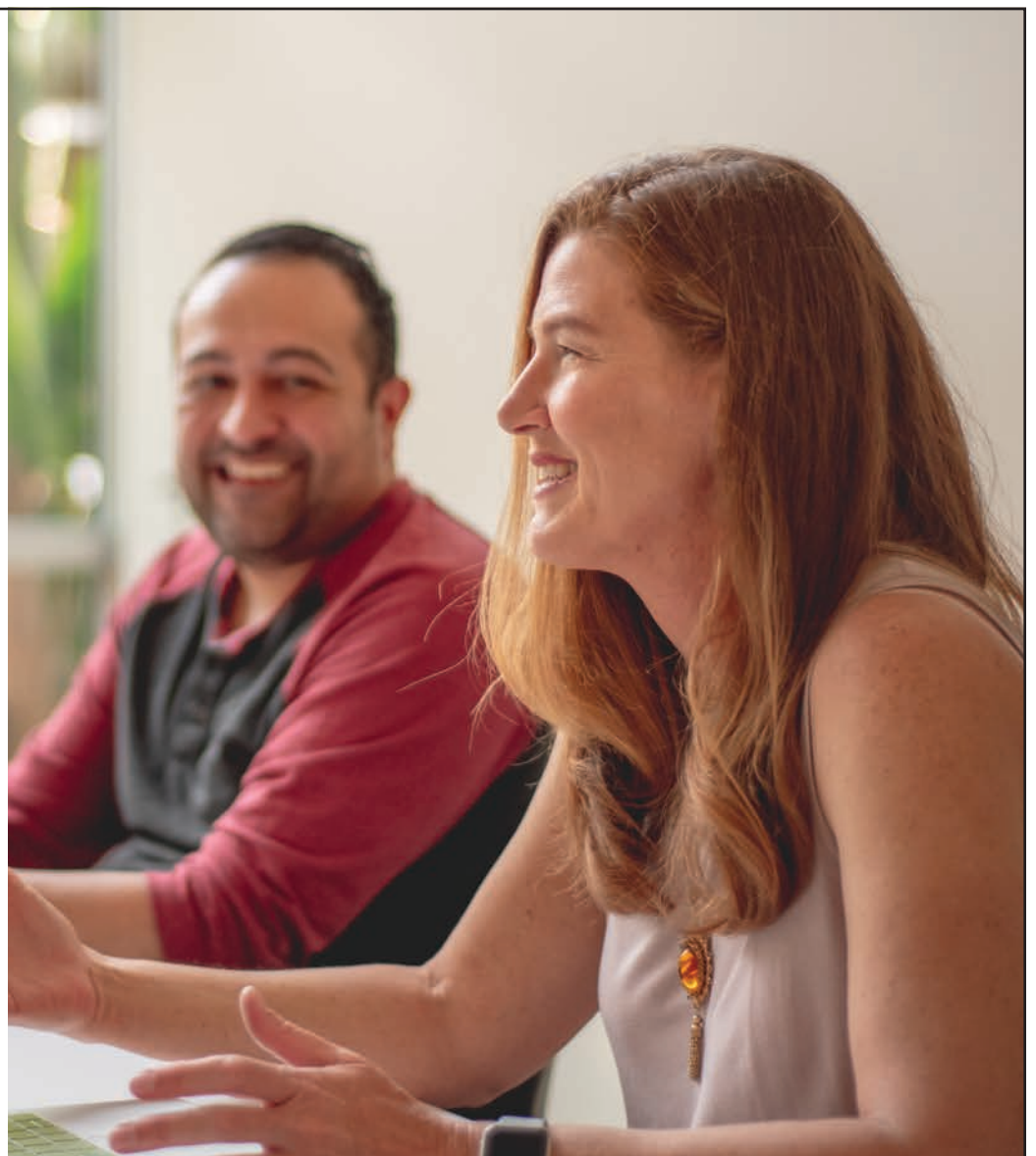
SEE FIRE PAGE 8

A learning  
community  
that never  
stands down.

Our resilience is rooted in an  
inclusive culture that  
celebrates the experience of  
our students and faculty.



Pacific Oaks  
COLLEGE



GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# Mailed votes don't cause California's slow count. A glut of ballots does

In recent years, California's ballot counting has been the slowest in the country.

With control of Congress sometimes hanging in the balance, California's slow count has led to frustration and even unsubstantiated accusations of fraud. The intense attention has spurred a search for ways to speed things up.

California's policy of counting ballots that are postmarked by Election Day and arrive up to seven days after has become something of a scapegoat. It doesn't help that the US Supreme Court, in a case out of Mississippi, seems inclined to ban the practice for the entire country.

But regardless what the Supreme Court does, late-arriving ballots aren't the real issue. And eliminating them risks disenfranchising voters without actually addressing the problem that is meant to be solved.

To say a ballot comes in late sounds bad. However, these "late" ballots must be postmarked by Election Day, so they would be considered entirely acceptable if they had been cast any other way.

A ballot mailed in a post office box outside a polling location is no different than one dropped off inside at the same time. Yet the second one would be counted on Election Day and the first might not be received until several days later. Such arbitrary discrepancies should be avoided.

Critics claim that allowing Election Day postmarks simply encourages procrastination without actually counting more ballots.

But the evidence suggests otherwise. According to data from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, allowing Election Day postmarks has cut the state's rejection rates for lateness in half.

Moreover, the link between Election Day postmarks and slow vote counting is weak. Election Day postmarks amount to a small fraction of the ballots left to be counted after Election Day.

In 2024, the California Secretary of State reported 243,976 unprocessed Election Day postmark ballots at the end of election week and 4.1 million unprocessed ballots that had arrived on or before Election Day. Eliminating Election Day postmark ballots would barely dent the post-election workload.

The real causes of California's slow count are the sheer volume of mailed ballots and how the state handles them.

Since the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic,

the state mails every voter a ballot by default. All the extra process for mailed ballots now applies to nearly twice the volume as in 2018.

Signatures must be checked for each ballot to ensure the correct person submitted it. This is an election security measure meant to instill the confidence in elections that critics of the slow count say they want.

A true fix would focus more squarely on the counting process itself, seeking to tighten it up without disenfranchising voters.

California's generous rules for checking signatures and correcting problems are designed to ensure voters are not disenfranchised, but the deadlines for that process are much later than in any other state. Accelerating things might make sense.

Likewise, the deadline for certifying California's elections is among the latest of any state. Moving the certification deadline earlier — and providing more funding and resources for registrars to implement new technologies and improve the process — might get the job done faster.

Allowing Election Day postmarks doesn't mean voters should mail their ballots as late as possible. In fact, changes to the way the US Postal Service processes the mail have made postmarks a less reliable date stamp for many rural voters.

We should encourage voters to mail their ballots as early as they feel comfortable or to drop them off at an official voting location.

If a voter still mails a ballot and it arrives late, the state should accept it for the sake of voter access. Abandoning late ballots sent by Election Day would cut off some voters from our democracy, with no clear gain from this loss.

California's slow ballot count is frustrating. There is no reason to accept it as inevitable. We should explore policy solutions that might speed things up. But proposals to accelerate the process — in California or any other state — must show clear evidence they will work and will accommodate voter access. Anything less is a disservice to voters.

Mindy Romero is director of the Center for Inclusive Democracy at USC Price School. Eric McGhee is policy director and senior fellow at Public Policy Institute of California.



## Surf report WATER TEMP: 63.7

WEDNESDAY FAIR SURF: 2-3ft+ Thigh to stomach

Combo of swells provides fun-sized surf but likely some onshore W wind issues. Points do ok. Shorter to mid period NW swell mix that picked up Tuesday PM tops out and holds. S swell continues, showing best at the summer breaks. Top summer/combo spots get into the chest - shoulder high range. Conditions will likely be lower quality with W wind for much of the day. Lightest wind expected early and sheltered points do ok all day.

THURSDAY POOR TO FAIR SURF: 2-3ft Thigh to waist

Size down a notch from Wednesday as combo of swells continues. Lighter winds. Both NW swell mix and selective S swell are down a notch for smaller surf. Reinforcing long-period S swell helps size at summer spots hold. Top southerly exposures continue to get into the chest - shoulder high range. The morning window looks much lighter than Wednesday and will likely be the best/cleanest window of the day.

## Weather

**Wednesday:** Sunny, with a high near 66. West southwest wind 5 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Wednesday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 55. West wind 10 to 15 mph becoming east northeast 5 to 10 mph after midnight.

**Thursday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 69. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest in the afternoon.

**Thursday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 56.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)High/Low
2026/04/22	Wed	12:50 AM	5.49 H
2026/04/22	Wed	08:49 AM	-0.59 L
2026/04/22	Wed	4:24 PM	3.11 H
2026/04/22	Wed	7:30 PM	2.81 L
2026/04/23	Thu	02:06 AM	4.98 H
2026/04/23	Thu	10:12 AM	-0.42 L
2026/04/23	Thu	5:40 PM	3.47 H
2026/04/23	Thu	9:53 PM	2.83 L
2026/04/24	Fri	03:41 AM	4.60 H
2026/04/24	Fri	11:22 AM	-0.34 L
2026/04/24	Fri	6:27 PM	3.89 H
2026/04/24	Fri	11:38 PM	2.32 L
2026/04/25	Sat	05:10 AM	4.43 H
2026/04/25	Sat	12:16 PM	-0.23 L
2026/04/25	Sat	7:02 PM	4.33 H

## Daily Lottery

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at <http://www.calottery.com>

<p>Draw Date: 4/20 9 17 36 47 64 Power#: 26 Jackpot: 100 M</p>	<p>Draw Date: 4/20 7 17 36 38 39</p>
<p>Draw Date: 4/17 38 43 44 49 62 Mega#: 8 Jackpot: 140 M</p>	<p>Draw Date: 4/20 EVENING: 0 0 6 Draw Date: 4/20 MIDDAY: 2 6 6</p>
<p>Draw Date: 4/18 4 22 27 43 45 Mega#: 17 Jackpot: 13 M</p>	<p>Draw Date: 4/20 1st: 11 - Money Bags 2nd: 07 - Eureka 3rd: 05 - California Classic Race Time: 1:42.78</p>

**PUBLISHER**  
Ross Furukawa  
ross@smdp.com

**PARTNER**  
Todd James  
todd@smdp.com

**EDITOR IN CHIEF**  
Matthew Hall  
matt@smdp.com

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**  
Michelle Edgar,  
Devan Sipher,  
Miles Warner.

**CIRCULATION**  
Guadalupe Navarro  
ross@smdp.com

**STAFF WRITERS**  
Maaz Alin  
maaz@smdp.com

**LEGAL ADVERTISING**  
legal@smdp.com

**MARKETING & ADVERTISING MANAGER**  
Dina Araniva  
dina@smdp.com

**PRODUCTION**  
Esteban Inchaustegui  
production@smdp.com

Julio Davalos  
julio@smdp.com

2219A Main St Santa Monica,  
CA 90405  
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)  
FAX (310) 576-9913



AWARD WINNER



WINNER

The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 8,200 on weekdays and 8,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

PUBLISHED BY NEWLON ROUGE, LLC  
© 2023 Newlon Rouge, LLC, all rights reserved.

Santa Monica Daily Press

**SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR**

Santa Monica Daily Press

editor@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press

# Classifieds

FOR QUOTES PLEASE CALL 310-573-8074  
or email [legal@smdp.com](mailto:legal@smdp.com)

<b>CLASSIFICATIONS</b>	Pets	Apartments/Condos	Real Estate Loans	Attorney Services	Wealth and Success
Announcements	Boats	Rent	Storage Space	Business	Last and Found
Creative	Jewelry	Houses for Rent	Vehicles for Sale	Opportunities	Personals
Employment	Wanted	Roommates	Massage	Yard Sales	Psychic
For Sale	Travel	Commercial Lease	Services	Health and Beauty	Obituaries
Furniture	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Fitness	Tutoring

## DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026045407. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE LASER IMAGE, 1728 S CATALINA AVE #4, REDONDO BEACH, CA 90277, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): PURE AND REFINED INC., 1728 S CATALINA AVE #4, REDONDO BEACH, CA 90277. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/2026. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000)). /s/ DUYEN TRA, SECRETARY. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 02/27/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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 before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 04/01/2026, 04/08/2026, 04/15/2026, 04/22/2026

## DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026082199. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SAVANNAH OKADA THERAPY, 720 WILSHIRE BLVD. SUITE 204, SANTA MONICA, CA 90401, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): OKADA MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, INC., 720 WILSHIRE BLVD. SUITE 204, SANTA MONICA, CA 90401. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000)). /s/ SAVANNAH OKADA, PRESIDENT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 04/14/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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 before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 04/22/2026, 04/29/2026, 05/06/2026, 05/13/2026

## DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026080318. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SHAMAN DANCE, SHAMAN DANCE ACADEMY, 2309 5TH STREET, SANTA MONICA, CA 90505, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): MARCELA LILIANA BONILLA LARA, 2309 5TH STREET, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000)). /s/ MARCELA LILIANA BONILLA LARA, OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 04/13/2026. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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 before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or Common Law (See Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 04/22/2026, 04/29/2026, 05/06/2026, 05/13/2026

## Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 26SMCP00157. Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, 1725 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Petitioner Ariel Johanna Palin for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Ariel Johanna Palin filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Ariel Johanna Palin to Ariel Johanna Bergh. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter 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: 05/15/2026, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept: K. The address of the court is same as noted above. A 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: 04/01/2026. LAWRENCE H. CHO, Judge of the Superior Court. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 04/08/2026, 04/15/2026, 04/22/2026, 04/29/2026

## Hearing

NOTICE OF HEARING TO CONDUCT MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENT NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT APPLICATION HAS BEEN MADE TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION TO CONDUCT ADDRESS OF PREMISES: 586 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD MARINA DEL REY, CA 90292 NAME OF APPLICANT: PAKKAWASA, SIRINAN / SIRINAN MASSAGE DATE OF HEARING: 04/29/2026 TIME OF HEARING: 09:15 A.M. "ANY PERSON HAVING OBJECTIONS TO THE GRANTING OF THE LICENSE MAY, AT ANY TIME PRIOR TO THE ABOVE DATE, FILE WITH THE BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION OBJECTIONS IN WRITING GIVING REASONS THEREFOR, AND MAY APPEAR AT THE TIME AND PLACE OF THE HEARING AND BE HEARD RELATIVE THERETO" OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION: BUSINESS LICENSE COMMISSION 500 W. TEMPLE STREET, RM 374 LOS ANGELES, CA 90012CN126218 Apr 20,22,24, 2026

**PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE**

**HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm**  
**LOCATION 2219A Main St Santa Monica, CA 90405**

## GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to [editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com)

# California's hospice fraud crisis is flourishing in plain sight. Regulation needs to catch up

Walking down Victory Boulevard in Los Angeles, you can't throw a rock without hitting a hospice provider. It's not because there's been a surge of patients in Los Angeles. It's because scammers have realized that a Medicare identification number is more valuable than a stolen credit card.

Eight individuals were arrested recently in connection with \$50 million in hospice and skilled home health care fraud in the greater Los Angeles County area. This issue isn't new. California auditors previously found that hospices, including potentially illegitimate ones, overbilled Medicare by \$105 million in a single year in this region.

When investigators and auditors show up at many of these newly licensed providers, they find vacant offices. They find dozens of hospices supposedly housed within one building. They find paper companies with no real clinical staff.

Now a temporary moratorium to prevent the spread of fraud will expire next year, while lawmakers finalize emergency licensing regulations to prevent the door to fraud from reopening.

By fraudulently enrolling seniors in hospice unknowingly or deceptively, scammers can bill Medicare and Medi-Cal, raking in tens of thousands of dollars for each patient.

But the issue goes much deeper. When patients are enrolled in hospice without their knowledge or consent, they are cut off from treatments that could have extended or improved their lives.

Scammers also disproportionately target elderly immigrants and communities of color in Los Angeles because language barriers and unfamiliarity with Medicare make them less likely to realize they've been fraudulently enrolled or less likely to report it.

The scale of this exploitation demands

urgent action. The fraud harms seniors and taxpayers. It also harms the nurses, spiritual and bereavement counselors, aides, social workers, physicians, and all the individuals who provide high-quality hospice care for patients and their families when they need it most.

In 2022, California halted new hospice license applications because a high proportion of them showed signs of potential fraud. Of the 2,605 hospice license applications at that time, 93% were based in Los Angeles and Southern California, and 72% of applications were linked to shared addresses. One address in Los Angeles alone was associated with 191 different applications from supposed hospice providers.

California's moratorium was the right call. It stopped thousands of potentially fraudulent providers from entering the market and gave the state time to develop emergency licensing regulations that link new hospice approvals with demonstrated community need. Those regulations would make it harder for bad actors to get licensed and bill Medicare, harder to hide behind complex ownership structures and harder to enroll vulnerable seniors in hospice care they neither need nor want.

The problem is, those emergency regulations still aren't finalized, and the moratorium is set to expire. The emergency regulations are key measures to keep out any more scammers, help authorities properly root out fraud, and prevent the same type of abuse from continuing.

Fraud affects red states and blue states alike, and this issue has champions from both sides of the aisle. Gov. Gavin Newsom and the California Legislature must move quickly to finalize emergency licensing regulations so we don't reopen the door

SEE VOTES PAGE 8



City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

**RFP: # 469 Managed Services for ArcGIS Enterprise Environment for the City of Santa Monica**

- **Submission Deadline is May 27, 2026 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **City's Online Vendor Portal**. The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is OpenGov (<https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/santa-monica-ca>) There is no charge for the RFP package.

**COUNCIL**

FROM PAGE 1

size of 1,500 square feet — a standard staff had proposed reverting to the state's 800-square-foot floor.

The ordinance, prepared by Planning Manager Ross Fehrman, amends Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 9.31.125, which governs duplexes and lot splits on parcels zoned for single-unit residential use. The vote was 5-1, with Council Member Lana Negrete casting the lone dissent.

SB 9, known as the California Housing Opportunity and More Efficiency Act, took effect Jan. 1, 2022, permitting property owners to construct a duplex with accessory dwelling units on a single parcel or subdivide a parcel and build up to two units on each resulting lot, capping total development at four units. Santa Monica first implemented the law in April 2023. Subsequent state legislation, Senate Bill 450, prompted further local revisions adopted in May 2025, including the 1,500-square-foot guaranteed unit size and a council direction to eliminate the owner-occupancy requirement.

**“In light of that promise that I made to my colleagues on the dais, I think it’s really important to honor the compromises and promises and agreements we make as part of the legislative process**

- Ellis Raskin, Council Member

The ordinance before council would bring the city’s code back into conformity with state law as required by Santa Monica’s 6th Cycle Housing Element, reinstating the owner-occupancy affidavit requirement and proposing to revert the guaranteed unit size to 800 square feet — though staff acknowledged the council retained discretion to set the floor higher.

Fehrman told the council the practical stakes of the unit-size question were more nuanced than they might appear. “Whether it’s 800 or 1,500, it’s not a minimum, it’s not a guaranteed maximum,” he said. “It just means we have to make sure we are allowing for them to at least achieve those sizes.” He also noted that of the

roughly 10 SB 9 applications received since the law’s adoption, none had required modified local standards to achieve larger unit sizes, though he cautioned outcomes were highly case-specific.

Councilmember Ellis Raskin, who moved approval of the ordinance, argued that the 1,500-square-foot threshold reflected a hard-won legislative compromise reached on May 13, 2025, and should be honored. “In light of that promise that I made to my colleagues on the dais, I think it’s really important to honor the compromises and promises and agreements we make as part of the legislative process,” Raskin said during his remarks. He also cited the scarcity of larger rental units as a practical justification. “I looked for a three-bedroom apartment a few years ago, and there were only a handful available citywide,” he said.

Councilmember Natalya Zernitskaya, who seconded the motion, argued that while SB 9 would not resolve the housing crisis overnight, incremental progress remained meaningful. “It took us time to get into the housing crisis we’re in,” she said. “It’s going to take time to get out of it, but I think we can, as long as we continue to try to make changes that are responsive and try to follow the data and make more homes available for more people.”

Negrete, the sole dissenting vote, expressed deep reservations about density increases outpacing the city’s capacity to study their effects. “We’re making real, permanent changes to our neighborhoods without clear data on outcomes, and that is concerning to me,” she said, adding that she did not believe SB 9 in practice delivered housing affordable to those who needed it most.

The council also directed staff to return with a separate local ordinance implementing additional elements of the May 13, 2025, legislative package — most notably removal of the owner-occupancy requirement — which Fehrman said could not be accomplished through the state-law implementation ordinance alone and would require its own planning commission review. He estimated that process could take a matter of months, depending on scope.

The ordinance also incorporates changes required by Assembly Bill 1061, effective Jan. 1, 2026, prohibiting demolition of contributing structures within state or locally designated historic districts and restricting alteration of exterior structural walls in those areas.

The Planning Commission had voted 6-1 on March 4 to recommend the state-aligned amendments without increasing the guaranteed unit size above 800 square feet. One dissenting commissioner argued the council should simultaneously consider a local ordinance reinstating the 1,500-square-foot guarantee and removing the owner-occupancy requirement.

A second reading will be required before the ordinance takes effect. Staff identified no immediate financial impact from the action.

maaz@smdp.com

**FINDING A NEW DENTIST IS TOUGH!!! (BUT WE MAKE IT EASY!!!)**

YOUR CHOICE

If you don't like what we have to say we will give you a copy of your x-rays at no charge

TRY OUR NO OBLIGATION  
**\$20 EXAM INCLUDES FULL XRAYS**  
 \*Offer to non insured patients

DENTAL CARE WITHOUT JUDGEMENT!

WE OFFER UNIQUE SERVICES

- \*Nitrous Oxide available
- \*No interest payment plans
- \*Emergencies can be seen today
- \*Our dentists and staff members are easy to talk to

OR  
 TRY OUR NO OBLIGATION  
**\$99 EXAM AND CLEANING**  
 For New Patients  
**INCLUDES FULL XRAYS**  
 \*Offer to non insured patients

AND OF COURSE WE DO

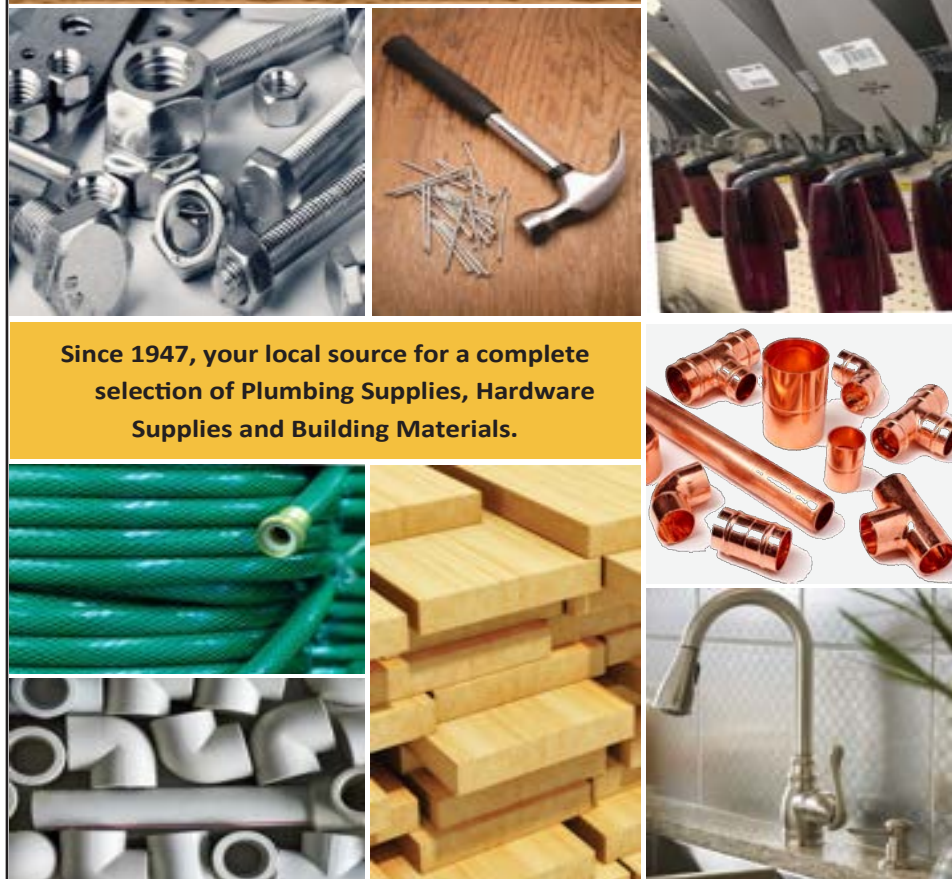
- Invisalign
- Periodontist on Staff
- Oral Surgeon on Staff
- Cosmetics and Implants
- Zoom bleaching
- and more

**SANTA MONICA FAMILY DENTISTRY**  
 DR. ALAN RUBENSTEIN  
 1260 15th ST. SUITE #703  
**(310) 393.8284**



WWW.ALANRUBENSTEINDDS.COM

**Builder's Supply**



Since 1947, your local source for a complete selection of Plumbing Supplies, Hardware Supplies and Building Materials.

**Bourget Bros. Building Materials**  
 1636 - 11th Street  
 Santa Monica, CA 90404 • (310) 450-6556  
 bourgetbros.com



**CLEAN HEALTHY WATER**  
*in your home or office*

- Earth Friendly home water systems
- Reverse Osmosis drinking water (removes pharmaceuticals, impurities)
- Whole home water softeners
- Water filtration



855-864-6800

# REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

# #2



# SANTA MONICA GREAT PARK COALITION

## Greetings from the Santa Monica Great Park Coalition

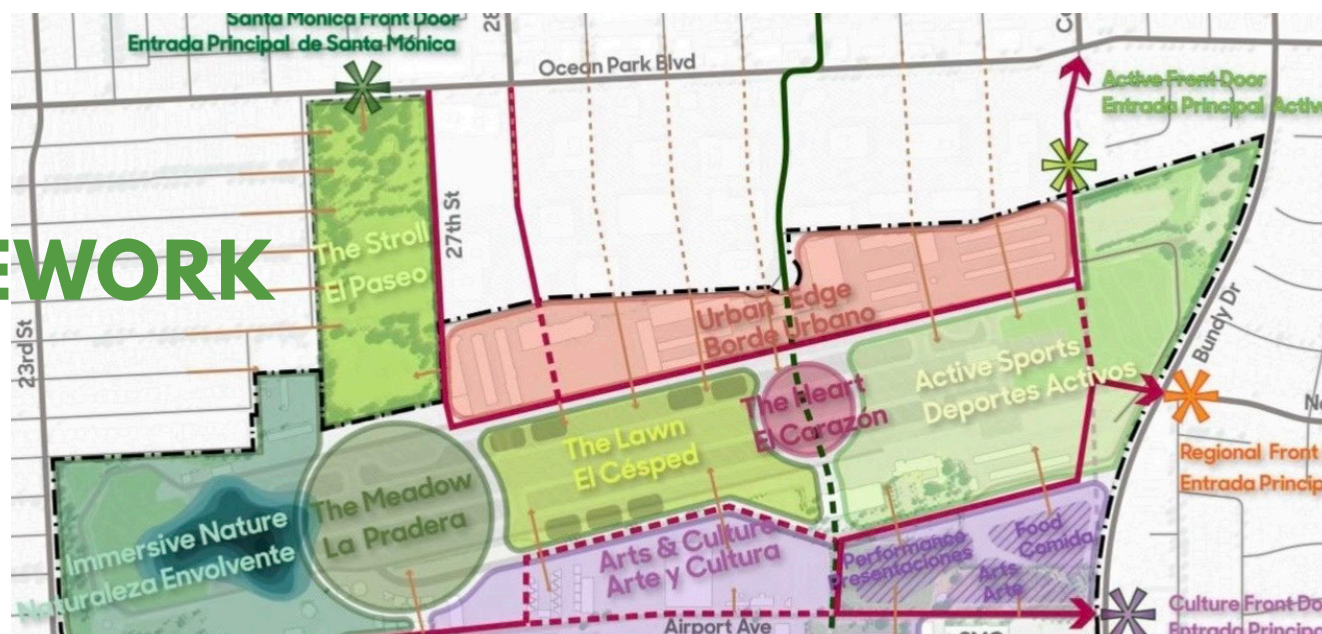
This is our second “Report To The Community”. (Read our first “Report” from December on our website at [greatparkcoalition.org](http://greatparkcoalition.org)) Our Coalition was formed in 2024 to bring together the many groups and individuals looking forward to the conversion of the 192-acre Santa Monica Airport into a Great Park when the airport closes at the end of 2028. Today, the Coalition includes 85 Supporting Organizations representing more than 35,000 people, all dedicated to advancing community health, restoring green space, strengthening local sustainability and creating vibrant arts, culture, sports and recreation opportunities for our region. We have lots of news to share.

## Planning gains momentum as the Draft Framework is introduced

Last July, City Council directed staff and consultants, as the next step in the City’ Airport Conversion Project, to prepare a plan for the conversion that would not require a vote under Measure LC, meaning that all site development would be solely for parks and recreational purposes. After more than eight months of work, staff recently released a conceptual plan for the Great Park, building on more than two years of community engagement through the SMAC Project, including workshops, surveys, and public events that invited residents to help shape the park’s future.

Called the “Draft Framework,” the plan outlines our Great Park’s overall vision. Structured by “Big Moves” (transformative spatial strategies); “Bold Connections” (how people move to, through, and across the site), and “Beloved Places” (the distinct districts where people gather, reflect, play, and belong), the Draft Framework establishes the Great Park’s overall structure, organizing the airport site into eight districts, each with its own distinct character, potential amenities, and uses. The Framework includes illustrative concepts to help the community envision what could take shape across the site.

## DRAFT FRAMEWORK



The GPC is excited about the Draft Framework, which marks another important step toward the Great Park. The Framework itself will undergo review and development before it is approved. Staff and the consultants are asking the public to contribute reactions and ideas to the Framework, by completing a short survey at [smacproject.com](http://smacproject.com). The GPC urges everyone to study the Framework and then complete the survey. Your input now will help shape how these districts take form in Santa Monica’s future Great Park.

Meanwhile, to gather more input, City staff and their consultants have made a series of presentations of the Framework to the Airport, Arts, Planning, Recreation & Parks, and Sustainability Commissions, and to the Urban Forest and Environmental Task Forces. Staff will also be presenting the Draft Framework to the public at farmers markets and other local community events, allowing plenty of time for the public to weigh in before the Draft Framework goes to City Council for review in May.

### County grants Santa Monica funding for Great Park planning

In March, the L.A. County Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD) announced its 2026 Measure-A Park Grants. Included is an award of \$499,149 to the City of Santa Monica to design and plan the first 20 acres of the Great Park! The County's grant award is an important vote of confidence in and validation of the City's on-going park-planning process. More than that, the grant reflects the regional importance of the Great Park for both recreational and environmental purposes.

### Santa Monica approves a bold new target for more park space

In other good news coming from the City, recently the City Council UNANIMOUSLY approved the "2025 Parks and Recreation Vision Plan" (PRVP). This plan, based on and reinforcing the concept of the "City as Habitat," recognizes the need for more park space in Santa Monica, setting a goal of five acres of parkland for every 1,000 residents.

This five-acre standard is considered a baseline for cities, but would represent more than a tripling of Santa Monica's current park acreage, which is only 1.5 acres per 1,000. Transforming the airport land into a Great Park is essential to meeting this goal, as it is the last large, contiguous public parcel in Santa Monica. The PRVP recognizes this by including an addendum for the Santa Monica Airport Conversion Project, strengthening the connection between the PRVP's target and the future Great Park. You can read more about the PRVP at [www.santamonica.gov/parks-and-recreation-vision-plan](http://www.santamonica.gov/parks-and-recreation-vision-plan)

### Protect your Great Park; every acre counts

Unfortunately we must also alert you to two proposals circulating that would reduce or fragment the Great Park. One is a petition for a ballot measure, currently in the signature gathering stage, which seeks to remove 25% of the land at the airport from the park and use it for a housing development. (Santa Monica is already building housing in the right places, especially along transit corridors, in Downtown, and along the E Line where the city has already planned for growth. Meanwhile, our need for open space, climate resilience, and community-serving parkland has never been greater.)

Another threat to the Great Park comes from pro-aviation interests who suggest keeping the airport's runway operating while purportedly adding some park space around it. The GPC is opposed to any proposal which would reduce the acreage of the Great Park. Carving up this parkland would undermine community priorities and leave Santa Monica without the park it needs. Please do not sign any petitions for ballot measures or proposals that would allow any use other than a full Great Park across all 192 acres.

### Join our founding community of Great Park supporters and advocates

Santa Monica now has a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to create a lasting legacy for the people who will call this region home today and for future generations.

Every day, the Great Park Coalition advances this work. We make presentations to community organizations and public commissions, build relationships with city officials and civic leaders, support funding grant applications through letters and advocacy, represent our Coalition before City Council and City Commissions in support of the voter-approved parkland vision, and connect with park planners, conservation leaders, and environmental infrastructure experts to strengthen the planning process. We also amplify the Santa Monica Airport Conversion Project's community planning process, encouraging active public engagement, to help ensure that our Great Park will reflect shared community priorities. We invite you to join the growing list of more than 1,100 Great Park advocates listed on the Coalition website ([greatparkcoalition.com](http://greatparkcoalition.com)) and become part of the founding community of Great Park champions, helping to ensure our public land becomes a lasting public treasure. We hope to see you at future Great Park advocacy events!



**FIRE**

FROM PAGE 2

Syracuse University fire researcher Jacob Bendix said.

**HOME FIRE PREVENTION BECOMES A BUSINESS**

Fire prevention tools and techniques are becoming a big business.

After the 2018 Woolsey fire near his home in Ventura County, California, Nicholai Allen watched firefighters use fire retardants and wondered if homeowners could do the same. He became a wildland firefighter and learned that preventing embers from getting into homes' attics and garages are the key.

Allen now makes and sells Safe Soss (pronounced like sauce), which include carbon filters or guards for attics and vents, fiberglass heat-resistant ember-stopping tape and a spray fire retardant that can work from a garden hose, all of which recently became available at a major hardware chain.

Allen compares it to how people up north get ready for winter.

"It's kind of like if you live in the snow, you have a snow shovel, you have scrapers, and you know that you have to take certain preventative steps in order to live in an environment that, hey, sometimes snows," Allen said.

**TRIAL BY FIRE**

The test fires by the Insurance Institute

for Business & Home Safety are carefully controlled. The homes are made to be as similar to regular houses as possible without electricity or plumbing.

The attention to detail and safety is exacting. The institute likes spring fire testing at its site about halfway between Charlotte, North Carolina and Columbia, South Carolina, because while summer temperatures in the South can nearly match those in the fire-prone West, the swampy humidity in July is a bad approximation to a mountain canyon.

High winds delayed last week's fire for more than six hours with anxious workers worried they couldn't wait for the next day because an outdoor burning ban was starting after an unusually dry and hot spring.

Tarps and machines heat the houses to summer levels just before the fires are set on a huge concrete pad just outside the giant hanger where the fans line one wall and the hurricane testing takes place.

Elsewhere at the site, researchers have started looking into hail and how it can damage homes. Another part of the campus has dozens of roofs just sticking above the ground as the shingles freeze and bake and are soaked by Mother Nature sometimes for more than a decade for more testing.

By JEFFREY COLLINS and SETH BORENSTEIN Associated Press. Borenstein reported from Washington. Associated Press journalist Erik Verduzco contributed from Richburg, South Carolina.

**VOTES**

FROM PAGE 4

to the same conditions that allowed this crisis to begin in the first place.

Anyone who has had a family member experience hospice deeply understands why protecting it is so important.

Hospice provides clarity, support,

peace, and dignity in so many people's final months, days, and moments. We can't let scammers exploit this essential care and let seniors and their families suffer.

Sheila Clark is president and CEO of California Hospice and Palliative Care Association.

Santa Monica Daily Press

# Classifieds

**Legal Notice**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION – ABANDONED PERSONAL PROPERTY Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to California Civil Code §§1983-1991, Government Code §6066, and other applicable California statutes, the personal property listed below is believed to be abandoned by Mo Rahman, and all other owners, occupants, partners, tenants and/or subtenants, located at 2219½ West Court Street, Los Angeles, CA 90026. The property will be sold at public auction by The Rick & Beverly Sperling Living Trust, offered in one or more lots through a competitive online public auction facilitated by MEGA Auctions, to be conducted on Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. via online public auction. Auction access: WWW.MEGAAUCTIONS.NET Items to be sold are to include but are not limited to: Apple iMac, Aprons, Arm Chair, Art Supplies, Batteries, Beauty Supplies, Beds, Bidet Toilet Seats, Blender, Blu-Ray Player, Bookcases,

Books, Breville Espresso Machine, Cabinets, Cabinets, Calculator, Cameras, Candles, Chairs, Chargers, Clothing, Coasters, Containers, Craft Supplies, Decor, Desks, Dining Table, Drawers, Echo Devices, Face Mask, Fabric Baskets, Floor Mats, Fryers, Glassware, Hampers, Handbags, Hardware, Hair Straighteners, Headphones, Heating Plate, Ice Maker, Kitchen Island, Kitchenware, Keyboards, Kettle, Label Printers, Ladders, Laundry Baskets, Makeup, Massagers, Mini Oven, Mini Refrigerators, Mirrors, Monitors, Office Chairs, Office Supplies, Ottoman, Patio Umbrella, Pans, Pots, Printers, Projector, Recliner Chair, Rice Cooker, Roomba Vacuum, Racks, Rugs, SD Card, Sandwich Toaster, Shelving Units, Shoe Rack, Shoes, Side Tables, Silverware, Sofa, Speakers, Steam Irons, Steamer, Stools, Suitcases, Sunglasses, Towels, Trays, Trays, Tools, TVs, Umbrellas, Utensils, Vacuums, Wall Art, Wall Cabinets

CALL TODAY  
AND PLACE YOUR  
CLASSIFIED

office (310) 458-7737

Santa Monica Daily Press

**RESTAURANT**

FROM PAGE 1

Chucho, Palmys and Likeminded Wellness Club, said the restaurant draws its name from Fairy Bower, a break in the Cabbage Tree Bay of Manly Beach in Australia.

"Growing up in Sydney, Australia, I've been in and around the water my whole life and have been surfing for nearly just as long," Harper said. "It's a humble, thoughtful homage to our life of surfing, outdoor pursuits, healthy active lifestyles, hospitality, travel and all the people and places we encounter along the way."

The menu will highlight California Coast cuisine with influences from Australian cafe culture and Mediterranean and Southeast Asian flavors. Daytime offerings will include bright salads, sandwiches, grain bowls and fruit smoothies, while evening service will feature shareable snacks, whole-grilled fish, pasta and roast chicken alongside wine and cocktails. An espresso bar will serve coffee from Amigo Roasters. Bower will be open seven days a week, from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

Interior design firm Preen is behind the restaurant's look, which will feature large accordion doors, jalousie windows and an outdoor patio. Earthy materials including wood, stone and driftwood, along with antique furniture and curated art, are intended to evoke what Harper calls a laid-back yet social coastal atmosphere.

Alex Cameron, vice president of leasing and Los Angeles regional director at BXP, said Bower fits the company's vision for Colorado Center, which spans six buildings and 1.14 million square feet of office space in Santa Monica's tech, media, advertising, life sciences and entertainment corridor.

"As demand for high-quality, amenity-rich workplaces remains strong, the addition of Bower reinforces our commitment to curating thoughtful, experience-driven environments," Cameron said.

Bower Santa Monica has not announced a specific opening date beyond summer 2026.

Bower is among several food and beverage concepts calling themselves cafes or focusing on the casual market currently in various stages of opening across the city.

While the Promenade food news has been dominated by the Misfit/Taco Bell/Raising Cane's news, Dragon Alley Coffee Shop has also announced plans to set up at 312 Santa Monica Blvd. A new coffee shop called Sonia's Café is also in the Downtown area currently

“

Growing up  
in Sydney,  
Australia, I've  
been in and  
around the  
water my whole  
life and have  
been surfing for  
nearly just as  
long

- Dave Harper

”

working to open at 1260 15th St. at the corner of Arizona Avenue.

Along Wilshire, the vacant corner building at 1231 Wilshire Blvd. will soon host Vietnamese coffee specialists, DOL Coffee House. The company currently has a location in Gardena where it also serves boba and desserts.

On the city's north side, a second Santa Monica location of Italian gelato brand Bacio di Latte is coming to 1510 Montana Ave., next to Italian market Sogno Toscano.

On Main Street, the closure of Holey Grail Donuts at 2441 Main St. has made way for a new dessert concept. A notice on the door indicates La Diperie will be moving in. The chain, founded in Montreal in 2014, specializes in dipped ice cream, cakes, donuts and cookies served with a selection of chocolate dips and more than 20 toppings. With more than 65 locations across Canada and into Florida, the Santa Monica outpost would mark the brand's first West Coast location.

editor@smdp.com

Helping families honor, remember, and celebrate life



City of Santa Monica  
**WOODLAWN**  
Cemetery • Mausoleum • Mortuary  
1847 14th Street  
Santa Monica, CA 90404  
(310) 458-8717 (on-call - 24/7)  
www.woodlawns.com



FD # 2101

**CEMETERY & FULL SERVICE FUNERAL HOME**

• Traditional Burial • Green Burial • Cremation • Pre-Need Planning

**HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm**  
**LOCATION 2219A Main St Santa Monica, CA 90405**

**Agnes**

By TONY COCHRAN



**Dogs of C-Kennel**

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



**Zack Hill**

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



**Heathcliff**

By PETER GALLAGHER



**Strange Brew**

By JOHN DEERING



**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 17 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 6918

**Winter wonderland**

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

- |           |          |        |        |          |
|-----------|----------|--------|--------|----------|
| Ankle     | Dark     | Huts   | Neve   | Sled     |
| Baw Baw   | Drop     | Iced   | NSW    | Slick    |
| Beanie    | Falls Ck | Lakes  | Omeo   | Sneeze   |
| Blue      | Fear     | Legs   | Peak   | Stew     |
| Bogong    | Fens     | Lesson | Pies   | Sue City |
| Boots     | Fine     | Lodge  | Play   | Thredbo  |
| Cafes     | Foggy    | Lost   | Rain   | Trees    |
| Charlotte | Hats     | Melt   | Rugs   | Urge     |
| Pass      | Hazard   | Mist   | Runs   | Warm     |
| Chill     | Hire     | Mogul  | Shiver | Wind     |
| Cosy      | Hole     | Nature | Skate  | Wool     |

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

Something in the water

Covering the city by the bay since 2001.

To advertise, email legal@smdp.com or call 310.458.7737





**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 22)**

This is your Year of Love All Around. It starts with giving more time to yourself and the things that make you feel big-hearted and continues with sharing your fulfilled heart and being embraced and adored. More highlights: Tough relationships get easier, and easy relationships become more of your social life, which effervesces with fun, generosity and exploration. You'll win money from doubling down on what you're best at. Leo and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 33, 21, 51 and 15.

**HOROSCOPES**

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Your role as an earthling is to be the vital force that reminds everyone, including yourself, "We are alive - act like it!" What makes you feel like a natural being? Gathering with friends around a fire.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Your role as an earthling is to be a steady, grounding presence even through the changes - of season, of weather, of power, of relationship and of self. What makes you feel like a natural being? Touching the earth with your bare feet.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Your role as an earthling is to notice, name and share what's happening in real time, translating the language of the moment so others can understand it, too. What makes you feel like a natural being? Talking under an open sky.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Your role as an earthling is to tend the spaces where life is nurtured, creating safety where growth can happen and where others can return when they need care. What makes you feel like a natural being? Cooking and feeding people.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Your role as an earthling is to radiate warmth and creative fire, energizing the atmosphere so others remember their own light and feel invited to shine it. What makes you feel like a natural being? Standing in the sun.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your role as an earthling is to refine, restore and make things work better, honoring the details that keep systems healthy and life running smoothly. What makes you feel like a natural being? Putting something in order.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your role as an earthling is to create balance and beauty in shared spaces, bringing harmony to what could easily tip into discord. What makes you feel like a natural being? Arranging something until it feels just right.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your role as an earthling is to face what others avoid, transforming what is hidden or stagnant into something vital and alive again. What makes you feel like a natural being? Sitting with truth, no matter how intense.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your role as an earthling is to explore, expand and keep the horizon open, reminding others there is always more to discover and understand. What makes you feel like a natural being? Exploring without a destination.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your role as an earthling is to build something enduring, shaping the raw material of life into structures that support growth over time. What makes you feel like a natural being? Climbing toward a goal.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your role as an earthling is to think beyond the present moment, imagining better systems and helping move humanity in that direction. What makes you feel like a natural being? Thinking your way through hypotheticals and then building the real thing.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Your role as an earthling is to dissolve boundaries and remind everyone of their connection to each other and to the whole living world. What makes you feel like a natural being? Floating, swimming, bathing and boating.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

**Newsday Crossword**

**OVER HEADS** by Jay Silverman  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

**ACROSS**

- 1 Simplicity
- 5 In separate places
- 10 Enjoy some gum
- 14 Any Hollywood headliner
- 15 Pop singer Mariah
- 16 Israeli circle dance
- 17 Flue top to keep out squirrels
- 19 Mideast ruler
- 20 Depended (on)
- 21 Make eco-friendly changes
- 23 For days \_\_\_ (ceaselessly)
- 24 Double-helix molecule
- 26 Massage
- 27 Walk through water
- 28 1990s stuffed animal fad
- 32 Half-melted snow
- 34 Scottish monster's nickname
- 35 Boxer's punch
- 38 Bother greatly
- 39 TV network regulator
- 40 Extremely long time
- 41 Commotion
- 43 Sad song genre
- 45 League member rolling for strikes
- 47 Atop
- 51 Low-tech animation frame
- 52 Devoured
- 53 Cherish deeply
- 54 Forever young
- 57 Serious stage plays

- 58 Burrowing mammal
- 59 Positive impression from a single trait
- 62 Worry (about)
- 63 "Humble" dwelling
- 64 French fashion mag
- 65 Big Apple sluggers
- 66 Jumbled together
- 67 Active person

**DOWN**

- 1 Real estate account
- 2 Goddess of wisdom
- 3 Left a harbor
- 4 White weasels
- 5 Passed easily
- 6 Salary
- 7 Circle segment
- 8 '80s president
- 9 Keyboarding error
- 10 Sweet little kids
- 11 Headquarters
- 12 Lake near Niagara Falls
- 13 Put on notice
- 18 Homer's toon neighbor
- 22 Where 2-Down was revered
- 24 Work station
- 25 Slangy refusal
- 28 Southwestern donkey
- 29 Run up, as costs
- 30 Life story, in brief
- 31 Money in Tokyo
- 33 Likely (to)
- 35 Stick (out)
- 36 Chimp, for instance
- 37 Wrist jewelry
- 39 Escape in a hurry
- 42 Egggy entrées
- 43 Crunchy sandwich, for short
- 44 Cold remedy brand
- 46 Spicy sushi condiment
- 48 Large citrus fruit
- 49 Fortune-teller
- 50 Bird assembling twigs
- 53 Comic strip bark
- 54 Two-band, as radios
- 55 Clinton's veep
- 56 Fake facade
- 57 House's proof of purchase
- 60 Smoked salmon
- 61 Poem of praise

**Sudoku**

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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.

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

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17				18							19			
20							21		22					
23						24	25			26				
27					28				29				30	31
				32	33				34					
35	36	37		38				39				40		
41			42				43				44			
45						46					47	48	49	50
			51			52				53				
54	55				56			57						
58					59		60	61						
62					63						64			
65					66						67			

CREATORS SYNDICATE ©2026 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 04/22/26

**MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS!** Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: [tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords](http://tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords)

**LAHSA**

FROM PAGE 1

of Los Angeles and the state of California of the planned layoffs in compliance with the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act. Affected employees — 216 union-represented workers and 68 non-represented staff — are projected to have their final day of employment on June 30, coinciding with the end of the current fiscal year.

“

I want to profoundly thank our staff for their unwavering dedication and hard work serving people experiencing homelessness across Los Angeles County

- Gita O'Neill, Interim CEO

”

The cuts are part of a broader elimination of 414 positions in total, 130 of which are currently vacant.

“I want to profoundly thank our staff for their unwavering dedication and hard work serving people experiencing homelessness across Los Angeles County,” Interim CEO Gita O'Neill said in a statement. “Though our agency's structure is changing, the monumental impact of their work — housing nearly 80,000 people over three years — speaks for itself.”

A final determination on how many employees may ultimately be retained depends in part on the City of Los Angeles budget, which is expected to be finalized in early June.

LAHSA, a joint city-county agency created in 1993, says its workforce achieved several measurable milestones in recent years despite the upheaval surrounding the organization. The agency reported two consecutive years of overall reductions in homelessness countywide, including a 14% reduction in street homelessness across Los Angeles County and an 18% decrease within city limits. From 2022 to 2024, LAHSA staff facilitated 77,834 permanent housing placements, with a 24% annual increase in 2024 compared to 2022.

“The historic milestones we have achieved are a direct result of the relentless dedication

of LAHSA's workforce,” said Amber Sheikh, chair of the LAHSA Commission. “What matters most right now is reshaping LAHSA to provide uninterrupted support for the service providers on the frontlines every single day.”

Going forward, O'Neill has said LAHSA will transition into what she described as “a fundamentally different organization” beginning in July 2026, narrowing its focus to macro-level governance and federal funding operations. The agency's revised mission will center on operating the Homeless Management Information System and the Coordinated Entry System, leading the annual Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count, overseeing Continuum of Care governance and managing the annual federal Notice of Funding Opportunity competition. Its contracting and program oversight role will be refocused primarily on serving the city of Los Angeles. LAHSA has engaged consulting firm KPMG to help rebuild and optimize its financial infrastructure.

The restructuring caps years of mounting criticism, audits and leadership turmoil that eroded confidence in the agency among county and city officials alike.

In November 2024, the Los Angeles County Auditor-Controller identified 16 deficiencies at LAHSA, including late payments to service providers and \$50.8 million in unrecovered Measure H cash advances issued since fiscal year 2017-18, of which only \$2.5 million had been recouped. A court-ordered audit, released in March 2025, reviewed roughly \$2.3 billion in agency spending from June 2020 through June 2024 and found what it described as “nearly zero financial oversight or accountability,” concluding that LAHSA had failed to verify whether invoiced services were actually provided. The \$2.8 million audit was commissioned by U.S. District Judge David O. Carter in connection with the 2020 L.A. Alliance for Human Rights lawsuit.

On April 1, 2025, the Board of Supervisors voted 4-0 — with Supervisor Holly Mitchell abstaining — to pull county funding from LAHSA. Supervisors Lindsey Horvath and Kathryn Barger led the effort. The county's new Department of Homeless Services and Housing launched Jan. 1, 2026, with an \$843 million budget approved in February, largely funded by Measure A, a half-cent sales tax projected to generate roughly \$1 billion annually.

The agency's annual Point-in-Time homeless count has also drawn scrutiny. A 2025 RAND Corporation study found LAHSA undercounted unsheltered residents in Hollywood, Venice and Skid Row by 26% in 2024 and 32% in 2025, casting doubt on reported countywide declines.

Leadership instability has compounded the agency's challenges. Executive Director Heidi Marston resigned in April 2022. Her successor, Va Lecia Adams Kellum — a former St. Joseph Center CEO and Mayor Karen Bass ally — announced her own resignation in April 2025 after a report that she had signed a \$2.1 million contract with a nonprofit employing her husband. O'Neill has served as interim CEO since Adams Kellum's departure.

editor@smdp.com

**WEDNESDAY | APRIL 22****BEACH WALK MEDITATION**

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Santa Monica Lifeguard Tower 22 2400 Ocean Front Walk Los Angeles. Walking meditation is and has always been a significant alternative to sitting meditation, especially for those starting a new practice. The goal of meditation is to be able to practice in all positions, conditions and activities whether sitting, standing, walking, lying down, or whenever awake. Developing mindfulness doesn't have to happen in a quiet room without any distracting sights or sounds. In fact we can develop our mindfulness while out in nature; feeling the warmth of the sun on our backs and the cool ocean splashing around our feet. Let's practice meditation in motion while creating a potent wellness experience that enhances mental clarity, alertness, and overall well-being. We'll meet Wednesdays and Fridays at 8 am at lifeguard tower 22 -see a red, yellow, blue, orange, white FLAG. After some basic instructions we'll walk silently together for approximately 45 minutes on the shoreline at a natural pace from tower 22 towards the Santa Monica Pier and back. Free—Donations are accepted. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/beach-walk-meditation/16206460/2026-04-01T08>

**DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET - WEDNESDAY MARKET**

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Downtown Santa Monica Arizona Avenue (Between 4th & Ocean) Santa Monica. One of the largest grower-only Certified Farmers Market in Southern California and a favorite for local chefs! Enjoy one of Santa Monica's farmers markets, widely considered to be among the best on the west coast and featuring field-fresh produce, hundreds of kinds of vegetables, brilliant cut flowers, breads, cheeses, and more. Downtown Farmers Market Locations: Wednesdays at Arizona Ave & 2nd St and Saturdays at Arizona & 3rd St. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/downtown-farmers-market-wednesday-market/18330379/2026-04-01T08>

**TODDLER STORYTIME AND SONGS**

10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. West Los Angeles Regional Library 11360 Santa Monica Boulevard Los Angeles. Toddler Storytime and Songs Join us for storytime on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. We share stories, songs, and movement activities to build early literacy skills for toddlers aged 18 months to 3 years. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/toddler-storytime-and-songs/18526513/2026-04-15T10>

**LOVE AT FIRST BITE**

6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. The Penmar 1233 Rose Avenue Los Angeles. Join Lox Club for golden hour at Penmar with Levain Bakery and Aperol. Great company, spritzes, and freshly baked cookies making the rounds all night. Ticket includes event entry, one free drink, and Levain Bakery cookies to enjoy there and cookies take home. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/love-at-first-bite/18593250/2026-04-22T18>

**MOMSLA DINNER PARTY**

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. This is your invitation to Dinner on April 22nd in Santa Monica! Meet Other Moms + Make New Friends. We're hosting small group dinners all around LA so that Moms can meet up and get to know each other. How Does the MomsLA Dinner Party Work? Take the Quiz. (The quiz asks about your interests, food preferences, and more.) \$15.99 to \$50.00. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/momsla-dinner-party/18523708/2026-04-22T18>

**JAZZ A GO GO AT LOULOU SANTA MONICA**

7:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. LouLou Santa Monica 395 Santa Monica PI #300 Santa Monica. JAZZ A GO GO at LouLou Santa Monica. Every Wednesday - From 7 PM till late - Live Jazz that turns into a Vibe.Music you Feel. People you Meet. Amazing Food. Nights that Flow. JAZZ A GO GO (@jazzagotonight) by Loulou Santa Monica, Gilles Signature & Gilles Los Angeles - curated by the creator of @jazzeclectica. Every Wednesday - From 7 PM till late Watch the LouLou experience: <https://bit.ly/loulou-jazz-a-gogo>. Book Now: [bit.ly/booking-loulou](https://bit.ly/booking-loulou) LouLou Santa Monica JAZZ A GO GO Every Wednesday From 7 PM till late 395 Santa Monica PI #300, Santa Monica, CA 90401(323) 410-2337info@loulousantamonica.comloulousantamonica.com Reserve your table now: [bit.ly/booking-loulou](https://bit.ly/booking-loulou). Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/jazz-a-go-go-at-loulou-santa-monica/18476815/2026-04-08T19>

**WINE WEDNESDAY AT THE WHALER**

101 Broadway CA 90401 Contact Info (424) 330-0166 info@venicewhaler.com Does not apply on holidays Santa Monica. \$15 wine flights & half off bottles of wine all day every Wednesday. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/wine-wednesday-at-the-whaler/16952883/2026-04-01T00>

**THURSDAY | APRIL 23****FOOD FOR THOUGHT BOOK CLUB**

11:15 a.m. - 12:35 p.m. Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica Open to everyone! Goals for the book club: To foster community on campus. This effort is a cross-campus collaboration seeking to create a space where students, faculty, staff, and community members can learn, grow, and discuss together. To enhance literacy and inspire critical literacy. The book club will be a space where we can hold in-depth discussions around the conversations of power, race, social justice, activism, colonialism, citizenship, belonging, and much more. To create a culture of solidarity. Through our book club, we hope to build empathy in our community members by engaging with writers and stories from various communities. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/food-for-thought-book-club/18045439/2026-04-23T11>

**SUSTAINABILITY FEST**

11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd Santa Monica. Meet the clubs and community organizations that are leading the efforts to protect our environment. Food will be provided. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/sustainability-fest/18612173/2026-04-23T11>

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

# Get Ahead This Summer

Classes start June 22 on campus and online

APPLY TODAY  
[smc.edu/summer](https://smc.edu/summer)

**35** YEARS  
#1 IN TRANSFERS

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

**SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Dr. Sion Roy, *Chair*; Dr. Tom Peters, *Vice Chair*;  
Dr. Luis Barrera Castañón; Anastasia Foster;  
Dr. Nancy Greenstein; Dr. Margaret Quiñones-Perez;  
Rob Rader; Sophia Manavi, *Student Trustee*;  
Kathryn E. Jeffery, Ph.D., *Superintendent/President*  
Santa Monica College  
1900 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90405  
smc.edu

