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To thwart housing law.
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A city to call home.

Soho House to open Venice Beach location in summer 2027

MATTHEW HALL

Daily Press Editor

Soho House will open a new location in Venice Beach in summer 2027, marking the private members' club's fifth outpost in the Los Angeles area, the company announced.

The new House will sit steps from Abbot Kinney Boulevard, the Venice thoroughfare known for its independent boutiques, galleries and restaurants from artisans and retailers around the world. Company officials said the location is designed to give Los Angeles members a new gathering place centered on food, drinks and wellness experiences.

Soho House Venice Beach will span two floors of club space, including an outdoor terrace on the top floor for drinks and dining. The House will feature communal spaces, health-focused menus and a year-round lineup of programming, according to the company.

Wellness will be a central part of the member experience "morning, noon and night," the company said. Planned amenities include a movement studio and both guided and unguided contrast therapy offerings. Those will include a large



Courtesy photo

SEE **SOHO** PAGE 7 **CLUB:** The new Venice location is one of many world-wide associated with the Soho House organization.

City to restart “overhead watering” for dying trees on San Vicente

MATTHEW HALL

Daily Press Editor

The deaths of dozens of coral trees along San Vicente Boulevard July 1, evaluated 13 South African coral trees between the 100 and 1900 blocks of San Vicente Boulevard. Nine were rated "high" risk, three "moderate" and one "low." All 13 showed poor foliage, trunk decay and significant root damage,

according to the report.

The assessment continues a troubling trend for the corridor, which has lost roughly 32 coral trees over the past four years.

Flournoy identified banana moth infestation, likely following drought stress, as a key factor in the trees' decline, noting that coral trees compartmentalize decay poorly,

SEE **WATER** PAGE 7

Three more countries want to host their Olympic presence in Santa Monica

MATTHEW HALL

Daily Press Editor

India, Austria and Brazil have emerged as the latest countries seeking a foothold in Santa Monica ahead of the 2028 Olympics, according to three new items added to Tuesday's City Council closed session agenda.

The items authorize City Manager Oliver Chi to negotiate

real estate deals for a trio of prospective "nation houses" on city-owned parking lots and parkland near the beach — the same model the city has already used to land hospitality pavilions from France and Switzerland.

Under the first item, Chi would negotiate with Anand Dawada of AD Media House LLC over an "India House" that would occupy portions of Parking Lot 4 South

and Beach Park 1. The second item covers an "Austria House," with Chi negotiating with Florian Gosch of Olympic Austria GmbH — listed in the Austrian Commercial Register as FN 364261d — over space in Parking Lot 4 South and Parking Lot 5 South. The third item authorizes talks with Manoela Penna of the Brazilian Olympic

SEE **OLYMPIC** PAGE 11



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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

SUBJECT:

26ENT-0119 (Minor Use Permit)
2820-2826 Main Street
APPLICANT/PROPERTY OWNER: Brandon Makhani, Maneland L.P.

A public hearing will be held by the Zoning Administrator to consider the following request:

Minor Use Permit (MUP) to allow for the ancillary sale of beer, wine, and distilled spirits for on-site consumption (Type 47 ABC license) in conjunction with the operation of a 197-seat full-service restaurant with operating hours from 7 A.M to 2 A.M., daily, within the Neighborhood Commercial Zoning District. Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 9.31.040(B), a Minor Use Permit is required to dispense alcoholic beverages for on- or off-site consumption.

DATE/TIME:

TUESDAY, August 11, 2026, AT 10:30 AM

LOCATION:

City Council Chamber, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Members of the public unable to attend a meeting but wishing to comment on an item(s) listed on the agenda may submit written comments prior to the public hearing via email to planningcomment@santamonica.gov or via mail to the address listed below. Comments received prior to 5:30 P.M. the day before the meeting will be distributed to the Zoning Administrator prior to the meeting and posted online. All written comments shall be made part of the public record. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

You may also comment in-person at the Zoning Administrator hearing. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment.

Address your comments to:

Liku Abera

Re:

VIA E-MAIL:

VIA MAIL:

Associate Planner

26ENT-0119

planningcomment@santamonica.gov

City Planning Division

1685 Main Street, Mail Stop 28

Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Liku Abera by e-mail at liku.abera@santamonica.gov. The Zoning Ordinance is available on the City's web site at www.santamonica.gov. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (866) 311-7266 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate languages provided that the request is made with 72 hours of the meeting. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

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 pública para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Mónica. Si desea más información, favor de llamar a Ana Fernandez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-2201 ext. 2431 o envíe un correo electrónico a ana.fernandez@santamonica.gov

Council to weigh three paths for shielding Expo/Bundy area from state housing law

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica City Council on Tuesday will consider three options for increasing development standards near the Expo/Bundy Metro station, the final piece needed to temporarily exempt the area from a new state law requiring greater density near transit stops.

The options, laid out in a staff report for the July 28 meeting, range from upzoning 89 single-family parcels north of the I-10 Freeway, to upzoning all 212 single-family parcels in the zone, to reverting to a Planning Commission recommendation that would instead raise standards on 66 parcels zoned for duplexes and apartments. Each option would allow the city to delay implementation of Senate Bill 79 in the Expo/Bundy area until a year after adoption of its next state-mandated Housing Element, expected around 2030.

The report comes two weeks after the council voted 5-1 to pursue rezoning single-family parcels rather than the multifamily parcels planning staff had originally recommended, directing staff to return with options for how many of those parcels should be included.

NEED FOR THE REZONING

SB 79, known as the Abundant and Affordable Homes Near Transit Act, took effect statewide July 1 and sets minimum density, floor-area ratio and height standards for qualifying housing projects within a half-mile of designated transit stops. Cities can temporarily exclude a transit zone from those standards if at least a third of its parcels already permit at least half of SB 79's density and floor-area standards, and if the zone's overall permitted density reaches at least 75% of what SB 79 would require.

Five of Santa Monica's six transit-oriented development zones already meet that threshold, according to the staff report, and the council introduced an ordinance July 14 to exclude those zones, along with downtown bus stops, from SB 79's requirements. The Expo/Bundy zone, however, falls short. Of its 381 parcels, only 74 — about 19.4% — currently meet the density and floor-area threshold, well below the 126 parcels, or 33%, needed to qualify for exclusion. That means at least 52 additional parcels need increased development standards.

Of the zone's 381 parcels, the report states 90 are already ineligible for SB 79 protections, 54 are commercially zoned parcels that already meet or exceed SB 79 standards, and 237 are residentially zoned. Of those residential parcels, 232 carry what the report calls unlikely displacement risk — including 212 single-family, owner-occupied lots — while five carry potential involuntary displacement risk.

THE THREE OPTIONS

Option 1 would raise development standards on 89 single-family parcels located north of the I-10 Freeway, bounded by Dorchester Avenue, Exposition Boulevard and Centinela Avenue. The report says this area sits closest to the Expo/Bundy station and to higher-intensity commercial parcels in the

Bergamot area. It would bring 42.7% of the zone's parcels up to the required threshold. Five of the 89 parcels have rent-controlled units, but all five are single-unit dwellings and therefore not protected under SB 79's displacement provisions, according to the report.

Option 2 would apply increased standards to all 212 single-family parcels located exclusively within the Expo/Bundy zone, raising 75.5% of parcels to the threshold — far more than the minimum needed. The report describes it as the simplest and most uniform approach, since it follows SB 79's own half-mile boundary rather than drawing a new line. Twenty of the 212 parcels have rent-controlled units, five of which have three or more units and are protected under SB 79's displacement rules.

Option 3 would return to the Planning Commission's June 17 recommendation to instead raise standards on 66 multifamily parcels — 60 zoned R2 and six zoned R3 — bringing 36.7% of the zone's parcels to the threshold while affecting the fewest total parcels. Of those 66 parcels, 44 have rent-controlled units and four have deed-restricted affordable units, with three parcels containing both. Forty of the 44 rent-controlled parcels have three or more units and would be protected under SB 79's displacement provisions; four would not.

Under all three options, a typical affected parcel's maximum density would rise to a 1.25 floor-area ratio, 30-foot height limit and 40 dwelling units per acre — below SB 79's guaranteed standards of a 2.5 floor-area ratio, 55-foot height and 80 dwelling units per acre, but above what current R1 zoning otherwise allows.

Staff also outlined four alternatives it considered and rejected, including upzoning parcels within a quarter-mile of the station, using a one-third-mile radius, targeting only parcels south of the I-10, or taking no action at all — each rejected either for falling short of the 33% threshold or for conflicting with the city's stated goal of directing development toward commercial corridors.

BACKGROUND ON THE DEBATE

The council's July 14 vote to pursue single-family rezoning over the Planning Commission's multifamily recommendation passed 5-1, with Councilmembers Natalia Zernitskaya, Barry Snell, Ellis Raskin and Dan Hall and Mayor Caroline Torosis in favor and Councilmember Lana Negrete opposed. Councilmember Jesse Zwick abstained due to a conflict with his employer.

Raskin, who pushed for the single-family approach, argued it carried less displacement risk because most R1 parcels are owner-occupied, calling the change “really just paper upzoning” given that state laws such as SB 9 and SB 684 already allow comparable density on single-family lots. Negrete cast the lone dissenting vote, warning the approach could invite speculative buying by investors and asking staff to research the rent-control history of affected R1 parcels.

Planning Director Jing Yeo told the council

They’re on our flag, but do long-gone grizzly bears belong in modern California?

The grizzly bear on California’s flag went extinct a century ago in the Golden State. Now, a group of tribes and environmentalists is urging the Legislature to study whether it’s possible to bring them back.

Grizzlies once lived across most of California. As many as 10,000 may have roamed before the Gold Rush. They were so prevalent that when California settlers tried to form their own nation, they called it the Bear Flag Republic.

Settlers systematically exterminated the animals, and they were gone by the 1920s, leaving the smaller black bear as the only surviving bear species.

A century and 34.5 million more people later, Inglewood Democratic Sen. Laura Richardson’s Senate Bill 1305 would task the California Department of Fish and Wildlife with creating a “roadmap that evaluates whether, and under what conditions, reintroduction of the grizzly bear is feasible and advisable.”

The measure provides no funding to carry out the study, which could be provided by a future Legislature or an outside group. And even if it were funded and its recommendations acted on, it would be several years and require help from a potentially adversarial federal government before a grizzly bear’s claws ever cut tracks in California.

The proposal’s hypothetical nature has done little to ease tensions over the prospect of some day returning the continent’s second-largest land predator to the nation’s most populous state.

On one side are organizations representing rural communities, hunting organizations and ranchers.

They argue it’s preposterous to consider re-introducing aggressive 800-pound bears to California’s degraded, drought- and fire-prone landscapes. Rural areas, they say, are already overwhelmed with conflicts with mountain lions and growing black bear and wolf populations.

“I just don’t think that our California today is ready for a grizzly bear,” Republican Assemblymember Heather Hadwick told the Assembly wildlife committee last month.

Hadwick’s sprawling rural district in northeastern California has faced years of tensions over predators, especially wolves, killing livestock and frightening small towns.

ENVIRONMENTALISTS, TRIBES SUPPORT

At least 40 tribes, environmentalists and animal welfare organizations support the bill, according to the CalMatters Digital Democracy database. They say bringing back the state’s biggest apex land predator would improve the ecosystem and right an ecological wrong from California’s past.

“I can see the ways in which my homeland has suffered from the loss of iconic species such as the grizzly, and that this loss lingers in our heart and in the attenuation of a millennia-old relationship,” Tiana Williams-Claussen, director of the Yurok Tribe’s wildlife department, told lawmakers last month. The Yurok and Tejon tribes are the bill’s cosponsors. A 2025 study from a coalition of tribes, environmentalists and university researchers found that the Yurok lands on the north coast as well as the nearby Klamath Mountains and

Trinity Alps could be suitable grizzly habitat.

The study also singled out the southern Sierra Nevada including Yosemite, Kings Canyon and Sequoia national parks as well as the Transverse mountains that span from San Bernardino County to Santa Barbara County. It estimated the habitats could sustain between 424 to 1,713 grizzlies, though it recommends bringing in a population of 25 grizzlies to start. Grizzlies can be found in Alaska, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho and Washington.

Supporters of the proposal say grizzlies would help California’s ecosystem. The giant omnivorous bears till soil as they root up meals, helping restore conifer forests, prairies and oak savannas, easing fire danger.

Grizzlies also serve as a check on overpopulation of prey. Grizzlies could reduce California’s human conflicts with black bears since grizzlies compete for food with their smaller cousins. Grizzlies also kill and eat black bears.

“The loss of grizzlies might have been one of those contributing factors to that (black bear population) overgrowth,” Williams-Claussen said in an interview.

GRIZZLIES AND THE URBAN-RURAL DIVIDE

Supporters’ arguments have appealed to the Democrats who control the Legislature.

Only Republicans have voted against the bill, which is pending before the Assembly Appropriations Committee when the Legislature returns Aug. 3.

Richardson didn’t return an interview request for this story. The measure’s Democratic coauthors are lawmakers from Southern California representing predominantly urban districts.

This spring, one of the coauthors, Sen. Henry Stern, told the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee that a mountain lion recently attacked one of his neighbors, so he understands rural concerns about predators.

Even so, learning to coexist with them is just part of living in a beautiful state filled with wildlife, Stern said. “We want to live in a California where — that risk — there’s some beauty in it,” said Stern, who represents the Sherman Oaks area of Los Angeles. “To have that element in our lives, as opposed to just sterilizing our landscapes and our nature so that nothing else could ever be a risk ... I think it makes us more human to have wildness in our lives.”

Elizabeth Washoe, a Native American from Modoc County, hears that kind of talk from urban residents and rolls her eyes.

“There’s nothing I would love more than to see grizzly bears on the beach at Santa Barbara chasing rich people,” she said.

But she said that would be cruel — to the bears.

Like many in California, Washoe’s people still pay homage to grizzlies through ceremonial bear dances, but she said it’s not “ethically right to bring them back.”

She hopes lawmakers consider what life would be like for the grizzlies they’d have captured and brought to California, where they would face a landscape radically different and eight times more populated than when the



Surf report

WATER TEMP: 74.7

TUESDAY
FAIR

SURF: 4-5ft
Chest to head

Fresh SW/SSW swell picks up through the day as NW windswell continues to keep beachbreaks in play. Size bumps up at the points as the fresh, more southerly refresh of SPAC swell picks up. Still a bit lully but should be a good amount of waves in the sets. Expecting just enough NW windswell energy to keep the beachbreaks in play but the points are best. SSE swell from Genevieve starts to pick up late. Looks like LOTUS is a little behind on timing and has too much period on the spot forecasts (expecting 14-15 seconds on the front end). Adds size through the PM.

WEDNESDAY
FAIR TO GOOD

SURF: 4-6ft
Chest to overhead

Pumping. SW/SSW S. Hemi swell peaks, SSE tropical swell from Genevieve builds, still NW windswell. All sort of swell running and wind looks favorable for the morning. Long period SW/SSW swell tops out, SSE swell from Genevieve is on the rise all day, peaks late (LOTUS timing looks behind). There may still be enough NW windswell to help shape, too. Cleanest early. Expecting widespread head high surf. Good spots are overhead off the blend and standouts of North LA push well overhead.

Weather

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. East southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest in the afternoon..

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 67. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east southeast after midnight.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 76. East southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south southwest in the afternoon.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 67.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2026/07/28	Tue	04:01 AM	-0.44	L
2026/07/28	Tue	10:29 AM	3.86	H
2026/07/28	Tue	2:59 PM	2.46	L
2026/07/28	Tue	9:14 PM	6.17	H
2026/07/29	Wed	04:28 AM	-0.48	L
2026/07/29	Wed	10:53 AM	3.99	H
2026/07/29	Wed	3:34 PM	2.30	L
2026/07/29	Wed	9:45 PM	6.16	H
2026/07/30	Thu	04:55 AM	-0.44	L
2026/07/30	Thu	11:18 AM	4.15	H
2026/07/30	Thu	4:10 PM	2.17	L

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>

POWERBALL

Draw Date: 7/25
3 4 24 36 47
Power#: 17
Jackpot: 633 M

Fantasy5

Draw Date: 7/26
14 16 18 24 25

MEGA MILLIONS

Draw Date: 7/24
2 5 42 44 60
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 800 M

Daily 3

Draw Date: 7/26
EVENING: 0 1 5
Draw Date: 7/26
MIDDAY: 6 8 5

SuperLotto PLUS

Draw Date: 7/25
3 27 28 29 34
Mega#: 12
Jackpot: 41 M

Daily Derby

Draw Date: 7/26
1st: 11 - Money Bags
2nd: 07 - Eureka
3rd: 09 - Winning Spirit
Race Time: 1:41.10

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Santa Monica Daily Press

SEE BEARS PAGE 8

Santa Monica Daily Press

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DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026152182. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: COBBLESTONE GRAND TOURS, 109 BELMONT AVE, LONG BEACH, CA 90803, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): LINETTE MICHELLE SOWA, 109 BELMONT AVE, LONG BEACH, CA 90803. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 07/2026. 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/ LINETTE MICHELLE SOWA, OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/13/2026. 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: 07/21/2026, 07/28/2026, 08/04/2026, 08/11/2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026149761. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: HEYUYEAHU, LLC, 1307 MAPLE STREET, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): HEYUYEAHU, LLC, 1307 MAPLE STREET, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 06/2026. 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/ DAVID MALCOLM SHANER, MANAGING MEMBER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/10/2026. 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: 07/28/2026, 08/04/2026, 08/11/2026, 08/18/2026

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

Gas, groceries and back-to-school items are where shoppers might see higher oil prices surface

Already feeling pinched since the start of the Iran war, consumers are likely to feel more pain ahead as oil prices pushed past \$100 a barrel Thursday amid renewed fighting and military strikes that have left global oil supplies stranded in the Middle East.

The elevated price marked a turn from lower oil prices enjoyed briefly when hostilities between the U.S. and Iran waned in June. Brent crude, the international standard, last reached \$100 a barrel in May.

Companies that produce and sell fresh food, school supplies and anything that gets shipped using fuel reported cost impacts from an earlier spike in energy prices after the U.S. and Israel attacked Iran. They’re likely to continue passing some of their increased expenses to consumers.

“Since everything relies on petroleum in our economy, for good or ill, if the cost of petroleum goes up, then everything else goes up as well,” said Joe Adamski, a managing director at procurement services company ProcureAbility.

Here’s how higher oil prices could put more strain on the finances of U.S. consumers.

GASOLINE PRICES RETURN TO \$4 OR MORE IN MOST STATES

Volatility along the Strait of Hormuz and broader regional instability pushed up the price of crude oil, the main ingredient in gasoline, and could continue to make driving costlier during the second half of summer, according to motor club AAA.

The U.S. price for regular gasoline averaged \$4.09 a gallon Thursday, 15 cents more than a week ago, and drivers in most states were paying \$4 or more, according to AAA.

“Given the typical lag along the oil industry’s supply chain, prices at the pump are poised to keep rising at least into next week,” said Pavel Molchanov, an investment strategy analyst at investment bank Raymond James.

Molchanov, noted that futures prices for oil delivered later this year and next year were lower, suggesting prices could fall once military action ends.

For the most part, higher gasoline prices haven’t stopped Americans from driving. Gasoline demand rose 1% to 8.9 million barrels per day last week, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

Shoppers are paying more for a bag of groceries

Grocery prices generally rise with oil because farmers use diesel fuel to power equipment, while many food products are transported by trucks that require fuel.

“Oil at \$100 doesn’t make food prices jump right away, but it does put upward pressure across the food supply chains, especially for categories that depend heavily on trucking, cold storage and packaging,” said Miguel Gomez, a Cornell University professor who directs the school’s Food Industry Management Program. Fresh produce and dairy could feel a larger impact because they require refrigeration during delivery.

Imported goods are also vulnerable to higher shipping costs, Gomez said. “Things like olive oil that we produce very little here and are coming from mostly from Europe are going to be up.”

Grocery chain Albertsons on Thursday

lowered its 2026 fiscal outlook, citing pressure on its core grocery business and a pullback in consumer spending.

EVERY PRODUCT THAT MOVES WILL HAVE HIGHER COSTS BAKED INTO THE PRICE

Higher fuel costs for ships, trucks and air carriers can trickle down to consumers and businesses that depend on shipping. UPS, FedEx and other shipping services introduced fuel surcharges and other fees as fuel prices increased.

According to an AFS Logistics and TD Cowen Freight Index released July 14, truckload pricing is at a four-year high because of rising fuel costs and capacity constraints.

Andy Dyer, CEO of AFS Logistics, said diesel prices in the second quarter were about 51% higher than in January and February, while jet fuel prices rose 90% from a year earlier.

“Beyond the direct impact of higher freight bills paid by shippers, these price movements also have second-order effects that squeeze rates higher,” he said. “Smaller truckload carriers working on tight margins may park trucks and wait for fuel prices to revert to more palatable levels before returning to operation.”

RETAILERS ARE NOTICING CONSUMERS PULLING BACK

Rural lifestyle retailer Tractor Supply Co. reduced its annual sales outlook on Thursday, citing in part higher fuel prices during its spring selling season that weighed on customer spending.

“Our customers often drive longer distances to shop frequently in pickup trucks, many of which are diesel-powered, making them especially sensitive to higher fuel costs,” CEO Hal Lawton told analysts.

Lawton said customers are still investing in their pets, animals, farms and properties, but shopping has become “more deliberate.” Customers are consolidating trips, prioritizing needs-based purchases and taking a more measured approach to discretionary spending.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SHOPPERS MAY FACE HIGHER PRICES

The Footwear Distributors and Retailers of America trade group warned in a report Wednesday that increasing freight and material costs, along with rising tariffs costs, were creating big challenges for the footwear industry as families prepare for back-to-school shopping and companies plan for the remainder of the year.

Matt Priest, CEO and president of the trade group, said some of its members have cited 25% price increases for petroleum-based materials used in footwear manufacturing due to the Middle East conflict. Those costs could eventually translate into roughly a 5% increase in the cost of finished footwear products sold to consumers, Priest said in the report.

Footwear companies have been front-loading inventory and accelerating imports before President Donald Trump imposes new tariffs on foreign products, putting additional pressure on shipping rates, he said.

“Container rates are spiking right now,” Priest said.

SEE **PRICES** PAGE 8

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

We deserve a city we can call home

We’ve spent too much time arguing about what to call the problem instead of how to solve it. That’s one of the reasons people have lost trust in government. We debate terms like “continuum of care,” “housing-focused systems,” and “permanent supportive housing,” while residents are asking much simpler questions: Why do our streets feel less safe? Why are businesses struggling? Why are people still living and dying on our sidewalks? After spending millions of dollars, what are we actually accomplishing?

We don’t rebuild trust by choosing better words. We rebuild trust by speaking plainly.

Let’s be honest: not everyone living on our streets is in the same situation, so why do we keep talking as if they are?

Some people have fallen on hard times and need temporary housing, employment support, and a bridge back to stability. Some need structured support and intensive case management because life has become overwhelming, but they can still engage with services. Others are living with severe addiction, untreated mental illness, traumatic brain injuries, PTSD, or chronic medical conditions. Many are self-medicating on our streets. They need treatment, medical care, recovery services, and sometimes legal intervention before housing alone can make a lasting difference.

Different problems require different solutions. If we keep treating every situation the same, we shouldn’t be surprised when the results stay the same.

We also need to have an honest conversation about housing. Santa Monica is just 8.4 square miles. We are a fully built-out city, so every decision about housing, services, and public space matters.

We should continue building housing responsibly for the people who live and work here. But we need to stop acting as though every discussion about homelessness begins and ends with building more housing.

When residents talk about the people they see living on our streets every day, they’re usually not talking about someone who lost an apartment a month ago. They’re talking about people who appear to be struggling with severe addiction, untreated mental illness, or both. Those challenges require more than housing alone.

That doesn’t mean housing isn’t part of the solution. It is. It means we have to match the right solution to the right person.

Santa Monica also cannot solve a regional crisis by itself. During ride-alongs with our Police Department and conversations with outreach workers, firefighters, paramedics, and service providers, I’ve met people from throughout California and other parts of the country. Addiction, mental illness, and gaps in

treatment don’t stop at city boundaries, and neither should the solutions.

Where treatment, detox, psychiatric care, recovery programs, or supportive housing already exist elsewhere in Los Angeles County, we should use those resources. Every community should do its part so no single city carries a disproportionate share of the burden.

At the same time, when services are going to exist in Santa Monica regardless, we should seriously consider local control if it gives us greater accountability. If we’re responsible for the outcomes, then the buck should stop with us.

That brings me to the Palm Motel. I live just down the street. When I first learned what was happening, I had many of the same concerns my neighbors had. I was disappointed that the community wasn’t brought into the conversation sooner. Over the last two years, I’ve also learned something important. Not every issue people associate with the Palm Motel actually starts there. The surrounding businesses, gas station, liquor market, and air pump naturally attract people throughout the day. Sitting on a sidewalk isn’t illegal. Putting air in your tires isn’t illegal. Using drugs in public, trespassing, stealing, vandalizing property, threatening others, or creating unsafe conditions is illegal. That’s where our focus should be.

I’ve supported our Police Department becoming more proactive not because people should be arrested simply for being homeless, but because public spaces belong to everyone. We should continue connecting people with services while also enforcing the laws that protect residents, visitors, businesses, and the people trying to recover. Residents also deserve to understand the choice before us.

If the City does not take over funding the Palm Motel program, we don’t get to decide what happens there next. The owners have the legal right to continue operating it, sell it, or redevelop it within the law. Doing nothing is still a decision, and it comes with consequences. Before we choose a path, we should be honest about all of the realistic alternatives, not just the one currently in front of us.

Finally, let’s start measuring results instead of intentions. Residents deserve to know where the money comes from, who controls each program, what those programs cost, and whether they’re actually working. We should publish that information in a simple public dashboard that shows funding sources, responsibilities, outcomes, and performance. If something isn’t working, we should have the courage to change it.

I know this balanced approach frustrates people on both sides.

Some believe acknowledging neighborhood impacts means you don’t care about people who are homeless.

SEE GUEST COMMENTARY PAGE 7

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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CLASSIFICATIONS	Pets	Apartments/Condos	Real Estate Loans	Attorney Services	Wealth and Success
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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. 2026140260. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: FUTURE VINTAGE, 1112 MONTANA AVENUE #330, SANTA MONICA, CA 90403, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): LUCKY MUSTARD LLC, 1112 MONTANA AVENUE #330, SANTA MONICA, CA 90403. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 06/2026. 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/ EZE BAUM, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 06/26/2026. 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: 07/28/2026, 08/04/2026, 08/11/2026, 08/18/2026

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026160928. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: JOIE DE VIVRE CONSULTING, 17879 RIDGEWAY RD, GRANADA HILLS, CA 91344, County of Los Angeles. Registered Owner(s): JOIE DE VIVRE PRODUCTIONS, 17879 RIDGEWAY RD, GRANADA HILLS, CA 91344. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 07/2026. 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/ JOI CARR, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 07/24/2026. 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: 07/28/2026, 08/04/2026, 08/11/2026, 08/18/2026

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COMMUNITY NEWS

SMMUSD
SMMUSD alumnus Wassim Issa returns as special education coordinator

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education has approved the appointment of Wassim Issa as a new special education coordinator. The board acted at its July 16 regular meeting, and Issa will begin the role this summer.

Issa brings several years of experience in special education and instructional leadership, with expertise in program coordination, Individualized Education Program development, Multi-Tiered System of Supports and collaborative student support.

A SMMUSD alumnus, Issa attended Will Rogers Learning Community, John Adams Middle School and Santa Monica High School before pursuing a career in education. He now returns committed to supporting students, families and staff while advancing inclusive educational opportunities.

“I am honored and excited to return to the District that helped shape who I am as both a student and an educator,” Issa said. “I look forward to supporting and serving students, families and staff while fostering an inclusive and equitable environment where every student is empowered to reach their full potential.”

Most recently, Issa served as bridge coordinator, problem-solving data coordinator, teacher leader and GATE coordinator at University High School Charter. In that role, he facilitated about 300 IEP meetings annually, coordinated special education operations, collaborated with families and service providers, planned professional development aligned with MTSS and implemented evidence-based interventions to support students with disabilities.

Before his leadership role, Issa was an education specialist at Santa Paula High School and University High School Charter, where he taught English language arts, English language development and world history while serving as a case manager for students with disabilities. He worked closely with students, families and educators to ensure individualized supports and accommodations were implemented.

Issa holds a Master of Arts in educational leadership and an administrative credential, as well as a Master of Arts in education with a mild/moderate education specialist credential from Alliant International University. He earned bachelor’s degrees in history and global studies from California State University Channel Islands.

“I am honored and excited to return to the District that helped shape who I am as both a student and an educator”
- Wassim Issa



Courtesy Image
COORDINATOR: Wassim Issa with Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education members, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Fiscal Services Gerardo Cruz and Director of Special Education Victoria Hurst.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

HEAL THE BAY BEACH GRADES



COMMUNITY NEWS

Malibu

The Surfrider Malibu launches ‘Sunday Sessions’ summer concert series with Aviator Nation Dreamland, Malibu Pier

The Surfrider Malibu, a Casetta Hotel, has partnered with Aviator Nation Dreamland and Malibu Pier for Sunday Sessions, a two-part live music and lifestyle series that brings performances, vinyl sets, food and drink to four beachside stages.

The series returns Sunday, Aug. 9, with music and performances spanning Aviator Nation Dreamland, Malibu Pier and The Surfrider Roof Deck. Programming runs throughout the day, with the roof deck open from about 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The event is presented with support from Lola Blankets, SipMARGS, Red Bull, Los Sundays Tequila and others. The first session, held July 12, featured performances and sets from Zoe Smith, Ellie Blackburn, Rachell Rivas, Taylor John Williams and Saige Davis, along with activations from local Malibu partners. VIP guests had access to the roof deck for acoustic performances and a summer menu overlooking the Pacific.

General admission is free and open to all ages, with access to the Malibu Pier Stage, Dreamland Stage and Dreamland Patio. Guests 21 and older can buy VIP passes for exclusive access to The Surfrider Roof Deck and the Lola Blankets Lounge on Malibu Pier. VIP passes release the week before the event, along with lineup details. August artists will be announced the week prior.

Guests staying at The Surfrider automatically receive access to all ticketed VIP experiences. Travelers and locals can book a special room rate using code SSS26. Friends of The Surfrider and Casetta receive 10% off their stay and two complimentary VIP tickets, subject to availability.

Highlights include acoustic performances and full bar and food service on The Surfrider Roof Deck; afternoon-through-sunset performances on the Malibu Pier Stage; a day-to-night lineup on the Dreamland Stage; DJ vinyl sets on the Dreamland Patio; and the Lola Blankets Lounge, a VIP space with side-stage Pier views, a private bar and oceanfront seating.

The venues line Pacific Coast Highway: The Surfrider Malibu at 23033, Malibu Pier at 23000 and Aviator Nation Dreamland at 22969. Parking is limited and first-come, first-served; rideshare is encouraged.

For tickets and lineup information, visit the Sunday Sessions site: <https://www.tixr.com/groups/dreamland/events/sunday-sessions-aug-9-196029>

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Photo Credit: Trevor Tondro

MALIBU: Sunday Sessions returns Aug. 9 with live music across Malibu Pier, Aviator Nation Dreamland, and The Surfrider Roof Deck.

GUEST COMMENTARY

FROM PAGE 5

Others believe supporting treatment and services means you’ve accepted the status quo. I reject both extremes. My job isn’t to defend an ideology. My job is to solve problems.

Government doesn’t have to be this confusing: explain the problem, explain the options, show people where the money goes, measure the results. If something isn’t working, change it. That’s

not a partisan approach. It’s common sense.

Our residents deserve clean streets, safe neighborhoods, thriving businesses, and a city they can proudly call home. People who are homeless deserve a system that actually helps them recover, stabilize, and rebuild their lives. We can do both. But first, we have to stop arguing about the words and start focusing on the results.

Councilwoman Lana Negrete

SOHO

FROM PAGE 1

communal contrast suite with a hammam, sauna and cold plunge, as well as a private contrast suite, cryotherapy and multiple ice baths.

Members will have access to a calendar of events ranging from creative workshops and talks to recovery-focused programming, including private and social contrast sessions, breathwork, sound baths and expert residencies, the company said.

The Venice Beach location will also debut House Goods, a new concept the company describes as a "purpose-driven" food and drink offering built around workouts, recovery and daily routines. Developed with local wellness experts, the program is organized around morning, noon and night segments and will feature nutrient-dense foods and functional drinks intended to support members throughout the day, according to Soho House.

Membership applications can be submitted at www.sohohouse.com/membership. More information on the Venice Beach House is available at www.sohohouse.com/houses/soho-house-venice-beach.

Soho House is an international private members' club catering to people working in the creative industries, including film, media, fashion, art and music. Restaurateur Nick Jones founded the company in 1995, opening the first Soho House above his Cafe Boheme restaurant at 40 Greek Street in London's Soho district. The club took its name, and its three-house logo, from that original Georgian building. Jones built the club around rejecting the formality of traditional gentlemen's clubs,

favoring creative professionals over corporate members, an ethos reflected in the club's informal "no suits" culture and selective membership committee.

The company expanded gradually from its single London townhouse. Babington House, its first location with bedrooms, opened in Somerset, England, in 1998, the same year the company launched its first Cowshed spa. Soho House New York opened in 2003, and the Berlin House, which opened in 2010, became the company's first location on the European mainland.

By 2025, its 30th anniversary, Soho House operated 46 locations worldwide and served 269,606 members as of Sept. 28, 2025, according to the company. Jones stepped down as chief executive in 2022, moving into a founder role, and was succeeded by Andrew Carnie. The company was taken private in a deal led by MCR Hotels that was announced in August 2025.

Soho House describes its mission as creating a "home from home" where members can gather and belong wherever they travel. Each House is individually designed with spaces for dining, drinking, relaxing, working and exercising, along with screening rooms, rooftops and pools. The company also maintains a curated art collection of more than 11,000 works.

Beyond its clubs, membership includes access to Soho House hotel rooms, Cowshed spas, Soho Health Clubs, Cecconi's and other in-house restaurants, Soho Works co-working spaces, the Soho Home interiors line, and a regular calendar of members' events.

editor@smdp.com

WATER

FROM PAGE 1

allowing rot to spread quickly once it takes hold.

Some individual cases documented in the report were severe. One tree in the 400 block had 23% dead trunk circumference and a root plate that has been uplifting for at least seven years. A tree in the 700 block had 55% dead trunk circumference. A third tree in the 1700 block showed signs of past structural failure, including a large basal cavity.

Flournoy said removal, rather than pruning, is the only viable option for trees rated high risk, though the city will determine the timing of any removals.

The findings reflect broader strain on Santa Monica's urban forest, which includes about 35,000 public trees. Roughly 42% of those trees are now mature and nearing the end of their expected lifespan, according to the city.

The tree deaths have drawn scrutiny to how the median has been irrigated over the past decade.

Around 2016, the city retrofitted the median's overhead irrigation system, replacing it with bubblers that watered only the trees rather than the surrounding turf. The change came in response to drought regulations at

the time that prohibited watering turf in medians. Depending on their size, the mature coral trees were each fitted with six to eight bubblers, and that system has remained in place since.

For the past 10 years, the bubblers have run for 30 minutes twice a week.

City officials said the tree watering system has functioned well over that period, with one recent exception: a section of the median between 7th and 11th streets has gone without power needed to run the irrigation system. The city has ordered a solar-powered controller for that section and plans to install it upon arrival. In the meantime, the city's landscape contractor has been hand-watering the affected trees weekly.

The city is now working to reinstate the median's overhead irrigation system, officials said. In addition to providing supplemental water to the trees, the restored system is intended to help revive the turf in the median.

editor@smdp.com

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Furniture	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Fitness	Tutoring

Petition to Admin Estate

Summons

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF JOHN HENRY HORSEY Case No. 26STPB03715. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of John Henry Horsey or John H. Horsey. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Maria Irene Mancini in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Maria Irene Mancini be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on August 4, 2026 at 8:32 AM in Dept. Probate 418 located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles 90012, Stanley Mosk Courthouse. IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: Vinh N. Doan SBN: 298718, 10971 Garden Grove Blvd., Ste G, Garden Grove, CA 92843, (888) 561-3988. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 07/16/2026, 07/23/2026, 07/30/2026

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) Case No. 25STCV27676. NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: Gerald L. Davis, Old Republic National Title Insurance Company, DOES 1-20, and All Persons Unknown, Claiming Any Legal or Equitable Right, Title, Estate, Lien or Interest in the Property Described in the Complaint Adverse to Plaintiff's Title, or Any Cloud upon Plaintiff's Title Thereto. YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: Gia Ventures LLC. NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. The name and address of the court is: Stanley Mosk Courthouse, 111 North Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012. The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney is: Steven J. Mirsky, Esq., Mirsky Corporate Advisors, APC, 901 Dove St., Ste. 120, Newport Beach, CA 92660, (949) 200-6837. SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS Publish: 07/07/2026, 07/14/2026, 07/21/2026, 07/28/2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGNOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on August 11, 2026, a public hearing as required by Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), will be held with respect to a proposed plan of finance that includes the issuance and reissuance from time to time, by the California Municipal Finance Authority (the "Authority"), of one or more series of exempt facility bonds for a qualified residential rental project pursuant to Section 142(a)(7) of the Code in an outstanding principal amount not to exceed \$80,000,000 (the "Bonds") to finance and refinance the acquisition, construction, development and equipping of a 122-unit multifamily rental housing facility located at 1318 4th Street (the "Project") in the City of Santa Monica, California (the "City"). The Project is to be owned and operated by 1318 4th Street LP, a California limited partnership (the "Borrower"), or another limited partnership (such limited partnership, the "Borrower"). The Bonds and the obligation to pay principal thereof and interest thereon and any redemption premium with respect thereto do not constitute indebtedness or an obligation of the City, the Authority, the State of California or any political subdivision thereof, within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory debt limitation, or a charge against the general credit or taxing powers of any of them. The Bonds shall be limited obligations of the Authority, payable solely from certain revenues duly pledged therefor and generally representing amounts paid by the Borrower.The public hearing will commence at 5:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, as part of the open session of the City Council meeting in the City Hall Council Chambers, 1685 Main Street, Room 250, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Interested persons wishing to express their views on the proposed plan of finance or on the nature and location of the facilities proposed to be financed may attend the hearing or, prior to the time of the hearing, submit written comments via email to clerk.mailbox@santamonica.gov by 12:00 p.m. on the day of the hearing.Additional information concerning the above matter may be obtained from, and written

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SB79
FROM PAGE 2

at the July 14 meeting that any upzoning of single-family parcels would likely need to apply uniformly to avoid legal challenges resembling spot zoning, though city staff has since returned with the narrower Option 1 boundary for council's consideration.

BEARS
FROM PAGE 3

bears last lived here.

"The bears don't have any say in it," Washoe said. "Where they're at, they're living a pretty good life, and we'd take them and put them here in a landscape that is so dramatically changed from what it was the last time that the bears were truly living a good life here ... I understand the idea of it, but to me it feels egotistical."

STATE WILDLIFE OFFICIALS WARY

The California agency that would be responsible for studying grizzly bear reintroduction does not appear eager to take it on.

The Department Fish and Wildlife, which hasn't taken an official position on the legislation, does not comment on pending bills, spokesperson Peter Tira told CalMatters this week. Gov. Gavin Newsom's press office also declined to comment.

But there's no indication the department's position on grizzlies has changed since a former spokesperson told a reporter in 2023 that wildlife officials can barely keep up with existing predator conflicts.

"Bringing another predator into the state that we would have to manage and come up with some program to figure out what happens when the grizzly attacks a human or kills livestock does not seem feasible for us," then-spokesperson Jordan Traverso told the Alta Journal.

The department is chronically underfunded and understaffed. A legislative analysis for this year's bill notes that Fish and Wildlife has enough cash and staff to complete just 38% of its existing duties. The department "would be unable to absorb the demand this roadmap

PRICES
FROM PAGE 4

HIGHER JET FUEL COSTS LEAD TO COSTLIER FLIGHTS

Since the war began, airlines have responded to the jump in fuel costs by raising fares and add-on fees, and trimming flights or routes that are no longer profitable at higher fuel prices. Those moves can help protect the airlines' margins, but also leave travelers facing higher prices and fewer options, particularly in smaller or less competitive markets.

In the latest sign that the conflict is driving

No environmental review is required for Tuesday's discussion, staff said, because the item involves policy direction rather than a specific development project. Staff said any ordinance ultimately affecting the Expo/Bundy zone would need to return to the council for further action before taking effect.

editor@smdp.com

would have on staff time and resources" according to the analysis.

David Bess, who recently retired as its top law enforcement officer overseeing California's game wardens, said the department is "drowning in work," much of it trying to manage conflicts with predators already on the landscape.

"I just don't see where the department even has the capacity to do it," Bess said.

TRUMP'S GRIZZLY PROPOSAL

Now, President Donald Trump's administration has added a new wrinkle to the debate.

Earlier this month, the administration issued a proposed rule change that seeks to return management of grizzlies to states, despite the bears being protected under the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

Environmentalists fear Trump's proposal would allow conservative states to begin killing grizzlies to appease ranchers and big game hunters.

The proposed federal rule wouldn't impact California's grizzly proposal, since the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service would be in charge of any reintroduction program, said Andrea Zaccardi, carnivore conservation legal director at the Center for Biological Diversity, which supports Richardson's legislation.

But having the bears in environmentally friendly states such as California could prove helpful if other states begin aggressively killing them off, she said.

"Hopefully, they would be managed more responsibly there," said Zaccardi, whose organization has unsuccessfully petitioned the feds to return grizzly bears to California.

By RYAN SABALOW/CalMatters CalMatters

up costs for the travel industry, American Airlines on Thursday reported a sharp decline in second-quarter net income despite record revenue and strong spring travel demand.

American said higher fares helped offset nearly half of its higher fuel bill but not enough to prevent it from lowering its full-year outlook.

Despite higher prices, jet fuel demand in the last four weeks increased 9% compared to the same time last year, according to EIA.

By CATHY BUSSEWITZ, MAE ANDERSON and ANNE D'INNOCENZIO AP Business Writers. Associated Press writers Rio Yamat in Las Vegas, Wyattte Grantham-Philips and Dee-Ann Durbin in Detroit contributed to this report.

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Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



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SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

Zeros and ones

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 28)

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Write out your idea before you talk about it because putting your thoughts on paper helps you discover what you actually think. Conversations are better when you've already done a little thinking alone.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It seems like rules would limit your creativity, but they actually help it. The limits give you a direction by eliminating options. It's easier to choose the best option of three than 103.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Draw it before you write it. You'll use different parts of your brain. A quick sketch can uncover relationships that words haven't found yet. You don't have to be an artist for pictures to help you think.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). To broaden your perspective, take a picture of the problem and look at it again later. The time gap will give your mind a chance to let go of some assumptions and notice what escaped your attention the first time.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Explaining your idea to someone outside the situation takes courage, and it pays off - not because they buy or love the idea, though they might, but because their questions expose assumptions you're unaware of and point out the path of improvement.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Familiar territory offers few surprises, not because the mysteries aren't there but because your brain stops looking for them. Assuming you already know makes it easy to miss what's right in front of you. Step out of your element.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Try the bad idea first. It lowers the stakes and gets you moving. Once something exists, it's much easier to improve that than it is to start with a blank page. Give yourself permission to make something imperfect and progress from there.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Anyone can use the wrong tool when they don't have the right one. But it's creatively brilliant to use the wrong tool on purpose. This forces you to solve problems in new ways. The result is different, too, and maybe "different" in a very cool way.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). How would a child see this situation? How would you explain it to an alien? How would someone from 1726 solve it? You're good at making these leaps of imagination that give you fresh perspective.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's amazing how one small change can spark a whole new level of creativity. Rearrange the order. Swap the color. Shorten the sentence - now you're getting somewhere. Or better yet, ask a different question entirely.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Here's a trick for honoring your influences and finding your own voice in one fell swoop: copy something you admire, then change half of it. Every artist begins by learning from someone else. Your own style appears in the changes you make.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It seems the work would be better if you had more time, but today the opposite is true. Give yourself 10 minutes instead of an hour. A short deadline leaves less room for overthinking. A quick start becomes a finished piece of work.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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.

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Chauffeur-driven cars
- 6 Be a retailer of
- 10 Spaniels and poodles
- 14 Central Florida city
- 15 Cleveland's lake
- 16 Smooth out
- 17 Side dish from the oven
- 19 Spare-rib discard
- 20 Poor movie rating
- 21 Title for a lawyer
- 23 Region
- 25 Lower than
- 26 Meaty entree
- 32 Fraction of a pound
- 33 Good-hearted
- 34 Army cops: Abbr.
- 37 Allow to borrow
- 38 Melted together, as metals
- 40 Life sci.
- 41 Cavity filler's deg.
- 42 Gang's territory
- 43 Electric car company
- 44 Side dish from a farm stand
- 47 Overstuff
- 50 Judge's gown
- 51 Load again, as a web page
- 54 Wine in Italian sauces
- 59 Suffix for kitchen
- 60 Seedy-fruit dessert
- 62 Matures
- 63 Colorful eye part
- 64 Agree to join
- 65 Puts on, as clothing

- 66 Department that may sell tuxedos
- 67 Pebble or boulder
- DOWN
- 1 Southwestern wolf
- 2 "Not if ___ help it!"
- 3 Manufacture
- 4 Spanish cheers
- 5 Sorrowful story
- 6 Become angry
- 7 Historical period
- 8 Row of a poem
- 9 Not as expensive
- 10 Show to be false
- 11 Egg-shaped
- 12 Any music category
- 13 Sinister smile
- 18 Unadorned

- 22 Campus courtyard
- 24 Requests, as assistance
- 26 Olympic winner's medal
- 27 Regretted
- 28 Rural hotels
- 29 Watch display, for short
- 30 Office neckwear
- 31 Conclude
- 34 "Other" category: Abbr.
- 35 Sport with ponies
- 36 Thick slice
- 38 Cat's coat
- 39 Large coffee dispenser
- 40 Hive dweller

BARBECUE MENU by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- 42 Carryall bag
- 43 Lunchbox soup container
- 44 Tender touch
- 45 "Easy to clean" ad claim
- 46 Type of ski lift
- 47 Whole wheat or rye
- 48 Turn loose
- 49 On a regular basis
- 52 Do pool laps
- 53 Tortoise's rival, in fable
- 55 Labor Day mo.
- 56 Voice above tenor
- 57 "Tender" beef cut
- 58 Diarist ___ Frank
- 61 Metal in bronze

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
59						60		61						
62						63					64			
65						66					67			

COMMUNITY NEWS

Los Angeles

Cooley LLP named official legal services provider for LA28 Games

Cooley LLP has been selected as an official legal services provider of the LA28 Olympic and Paralympic Games and Team USA, the firm announced July 15.

Under the three-year partnership, Cooley will provide a full suite of legal services to LA28, supporting corporate and litigation matters as the organization prepares to host the Games in Los Angeles in 2028. The firm’s work will span LA28’s legal needs, helping navigate the commercial, operational and regulatory complexities of delivering a global event. The partnership will also create opportunities for Cooley to provide pro bono legal support.

“We are honored to partner with LA28 in bringing the Olympic and Paralympic Games to Los Angeles,” said Rachel Proffitt, CEO of Cooley. “There is an extraordinary energy and purpose behind building an event of this scale — one that unites athletes, fans and communities around the world. At Cooley, we are proud to contribute to that effort, drawing on our experience supporting some of the most dynamic companies, leagues and emerging platforms in sports.”

Cooley has advised teams, leagues, investors and media platforms across the sports landscape. Through its Sports+ offering, the firm handles matters from transactions and financings to intellectual property, regulatory compliance and dispute resolution.

“The LA28 Games will set a new standard for what a home Games can be — and having the right partners in place is how we get there,” said Elisabeth Frienberg, chief legal officer of LA28. “We’re excited to work with Cooley as an Official Legal Services Provider, leveraging their experience and strategic insight to help deliver a Games that reflects the spirit, creativity and innovation of Los Angeles.”

LA28 will bring the Games to Los Angeles in 2028, uniting more than 15,000 athletes. Los Angeles will become the third city to host three Olympic Games, following 1932 and 1984, and will host its first Paralympic Games. The independently funded nonprofit has said the Games will be the first since 1948 to build no new permanent infrastructure.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

OLYMPIC

FROM PAGE 1

Committee over a "Brazil House" spanning portions of Parking Lot 4 South, Parking Lot 5 South and Tongva Park.

All three items are listed under the Government Code section that allows closed-session real estate negotiations, meaning the council will discuss price and license terms behind closed doors rather than in open session. No fees, dates or lease terms have been made public for any of the three proposals, and the negotiations are not yet finalized.

The additions bring to at least five the number of countries known to be pursuing a Santa Monica presence during the Games, joining France and Switzerland, whose hospitality houses have already won council approval.

Santa Monica is not an official Olympic venue. The city walked away from hosting beach volleyball — a sport with deep local roots — after a 2024 study session in which council members called LA28’s venue contract "troubling" and pushed for stronger community benefits and financial guarantees. LA28 declined to revise the deal, and the two sides ended talks in April 2025, sending beach volleyball to Long Beach’s Alamitos Beach. City-commissioned economic analysis had found hosting the venue would have cost Santa Monica roughly \$1.45 million.

That step back, officials say, has freed the city to instead position itself as a hospitality and cultural hub during the Games through its CELEBRATE28 initiative, paired with a two-year, \$60 million Realignment Plan aimed at economic recovery. The Games run July 14-30, 2028, with the Paralympics following into August.

France’s "Club France," to be run by the French National Olympic and Sports Committee at the Annenberg Community

Beach House, is the largest deal so far, carrying a \$1.55 million license fee for a run from June 30 to Aug. 4, 2028. It’s expected to serve as the main gathering spot for French athletes, officials and media, with cultural programming and commitments including free community events and paid student internships.

Switzerland’s "House of Switzerland," to be operated by that country’s Federal Department of Foreign Affairs at the long-shuttered Camera Obscura building in Palisades Park, carries a base license fee of \$300,000, with an option to expand into the surrounding park for another \$200,000, running June 14 through Sept. 21, 2028. The deal is also funding a renovation of the Camera Obscura building, closed since 2020, which the city hopes to reopen as a park concession as early as summer 2027. The council approved a design-services agreement with Omgivning Inc., not to exceed \$613,838, on July 14 for that project, with construction targeted for completion by June 2027.

Separately, the council has approved a framework for a 103-day "Nations Village" and international broadcast hub at Crescent Bay Park and part of Lot 4 South, to be produced by Hochsitz, a firm that has built Olympic sponsorship centers for companies and national Olympic committees in past Games. That deal carries an all-in license fee of \$1.15 million, though no specific countries have been named for the space, which could ultimately become a landing spot for additional nations.

Talks with the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee over use of the Santa Monica Pier and an 85,000-square-foot stretch of beach south of the pier remain unresolved. A closed session in April ended with no reportable action, and no fee, dates or format have been confirmed.

editor@smdp.com



TUESDAY | JULY 28

AUTHOR TALK WITH DR. MARISA FRANCO
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Santa Monica College 1900 Pico Blvd Santa Monica. Join us in virtual conversation with bestselling author Dr. Marisa Franco, one of the world’s leading experts in human connection. Her book, *Platonic: How the Science of Attachment Can Help You Make—and Keep—Friends*, explores the science of different attachment styles and how they impact our relationships—often in ways we don’t realize! How do we make and keep friends in an era of distraction, burnout, and chaos, especially in a society that often prizes romantic love at the expense of other relationships? In *Platonic*, Dr. Marisa G. Franco unpacks the latest, often counterintuitive findings about the bonds between us—for example, why your friends aren’t texting you back (it’s not because they hate you!), and the myth of “friendships happening organically” (making friends, like cultivating any relationship, requires effort!). As Dr. Franco explains, to make and keep friends you must understand your attachment style—secure, anxious, or avoidant: it is the key to unlocking what’s working (and what’s failing) in your friendships. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/author-talk-with-dr-marisa-franco/19258148/2026-07-28T11>

MEMORIES & MOVEMENT SENIOR CLUB
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park 2200 Virginia Ave. Santa Monica. Come, learn, and have fun every 2nd and 4th Tuesday from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM in The Patio room at Virginia Avenue Park. Each week there will be something new: Exercise, Talking with Friends, Learning, Guest Presenters, Health & Wellness! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/memories-movement-senior-club/14853634/2026-07-07T10>

ACRYLIC/OIL PAINTING WORKSHOP TUESDAY
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Paint Lab 1453 14th St Santa Monica. In this workshop each student will work on their own project with guidance from an instructor. \$61.60. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/acrylic-oil-painting-workshop-tuesday/19429773/2026-07-28T13>

ELEMENTARY ART STUDIO SUMMER CAMP
1:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Palisades Community Renewal Center 3212 Nebraska Ave Santa Monica. Join us for our summer art workshops for elementary age kids! In case this event has been updated, please visit <https://www.pcrsm.org/event/elementary-art-studio-summer-camp-383c6> for full details before arriving. Thank you! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/elementary-art-studio-summer-camp/19066074/2026-07-14T13>

WALK-IN TUTORING WITH LAURIE
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. West Los Angeles Regional Library 11360 Santa Monica Boulevard Los Angeles. Walk-In Tutoring With Laurie Walk-in tutoring is available for any adult who needs help with internet searches, filling out forms, English conversation, reading, writing, resumes, and applications. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/walk-in-tutoring-with-laurie/17128550/2026-07-07T14>

ELEMENTARY ART STUDIO 3:30-4:20PM
3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Palisades Community Renewal Center 3212 Nebraska Ave Santa Monica. Open to all skill levels, sparking creativity through drawing, color work, collage, and mixed-media techniques. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/elementary-art-studio-3-30-4-20pm/19066074/2026-07-14T13>

[smdp.com/calendar/#/details/elementary-art-studio-3-30-4-20pm/18825639/2026-07-07T15](https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/elementary-art-studio-3-30-4-20pm/18825639/2026-07-07T15)

WEEKLY WALKING CLUB
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Near Palisades Recreation Center Toyopa Drive and Alma Real Drive Pacific Palisades. A weekly walking club will meet on Tuesdays for approximately one hour to walk 1.5 to 2 miles. The group will meet at the corner of Toyopa and Alma Real. All levels are welcome. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/weekly-walking-club/19106860/2026-07-21T16>

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
5:30 p.m. Santa Monica City Hall 1685 Main St. Santa Monica. The City Council is made up of seven members elected at-large for staggered four-year terms. Every two years, after each election, the City Council selects one of its members to serve as Mayor and another to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore. The City Council also sits as the following bodies for the City of Santa Monica. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/city-council-meeting/13799967/2026-07-28T17>

COASTAL CLEANUP DAY SITE CAPTAIN TRAINING
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Coastal Cleanup Day is the world’s largest volunteer-driven environmental event, mobilizing millions of people worldwide to protect our planet! In Los Angeles County, Heal the Bay proudly leads this monumental effort, organizing over 50 cleanup sites spanning the coasts, rivers, parks, and dive and kayak sites. On Saturday, September 20th, 2025, we’ll mark our 36th year of coordinating this impactful event, welcoming more than 7,000 volunteers to take action right here in LA County! Are you ready to make a difference? Become a Coastal Cleanup Day Site Captain and lead your own cleanup with the support of Heal the Bay. The Coastal Cleanup Day (CCD) Site Captain Training is designed to teach you everything you need to know about Coastal Cleanup Day, to ensure you and your crew are well prepared to serve as leaders for your CCD site! Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/coastal-cleanup-day-site-captain-training/19365387/2026-07-28T18>

WEDNESDAY | JULY 29

COMMUNAL GARDENING @ ISHIHARA PARK
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Ishihara Park 2909 Exposition Blvd Santa Monica. Communal Garden Program Work Days @ Ishihara Park Learning Garden - Mondays and Wednesdays | 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. | Free. Come get your hands dirty in the Communal Garden Program at Ishihara Park Learning Garden, a communal spot to learn and acquire gardening skills. Seasoned as well as new gardeners of all ages are welcome. Free drop in activity, no reservation needed. Visit the Ishihara Park Learning Garden site for More Information. Subject to cancellation due to weather. Visit: <https://www.smdp.com/calendar/#/details/communal-gardening-ishihara-park/18461167/2026-07-29T09>

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/18526513/2026-07-08T10>



*Grazie mille
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