

Gary Limjap
(310) 586-0339

In today's real estate climate ...
Experience counts!
garylimjap@gmail.com www.garylimjap.com

COLDWELL BANKER REALTY
CalRE # 00927151

2 **Temperature controls**
For tenants.

3 **Swans**
Should they be killed?

4-6 **Social Security**
Opinions from readers.

7 **Social Security**
Will it survive?

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 24 Issue 189 THE WEEKENDER 8/15-8/17 smdp.com

Santa Monica Fire Department honors heroes at City Council meeting

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

The Santa Monica Fire Department gave awards and recognition at Tuesday's city council meeting, presenting its highest honor for the first time in nearly five decades and recognizing three separate acts of heroism that saved lives and demonstrated extraordinary courage under pressure.

Engineer Bill Howard received the Medal of Valor — the department's most prestigious award — for risking his life during a dangerous ocean rescue on April 12. The award, last given in the 1970s, recognizes "an act of heroism above and beyond the call of duty."

"This award is not given lightly and it's not earned easily," Battalion Chief Matthew Hill told the City Council. "It represents a moment where the fear is real, the danger is extreme, and yet someone chooses to act anyway because someone's life depends on it."

Hill said that Howard, a paramedic hired in 2009 and promoted to engineer in 2017, entered treacherous waters with waves towering overhead and powerful rip currents to assist a struggling Los Angeles County

SEE **HEROES** PAGE 15

LA County approves sand reuse program to combat beach erosion



Courtesy Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors

BEACHES: The new program will replenish five eroding beaches, marking a new approach to combating climate change's impact on the coastline.

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

Los Angeles County supervisors have unanimously approved a program that will reuse sand from construction and dredging projects to fortify eroding beaches as part of an ongoing effort to mitigate climate change impacts along the local coastline.

The Sand Compatibility and Opportunistic Use Program, known as SCOUP, will allow the county's Department of Beaches and Harbors to bypass lengthy permitting processes for small beach nourishment projects, potentially diverting sand that would otherwise end up in landfills back to the beach.

"The diminishing amount of sand on our beaches is one of the many negative factors of climate change impacting our shoreline," said Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell,

SEE **COUNTY BEACHES** PAGE 15

Malibu explores emergency alert systems after recent disasters expose communication gaps

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

The Malibu City Council is calling for an urgent evaluation of emergency warning systems after the city faced repeated communication failures during recent emergencies.

The City Council discussed the emergency alerting crisis during its Aug. 11 meeting, prompted by communication breakdowns during the Franklin and Palisades fires, a recent tsunami threat, and a boil water mandate that left many residents unaware of critical safety information.

"When can we test it? Because what I'm terrified of is we can have a fire in two weeks and we can have a death," said Councilmember Haylynn Conrad, expressing frustration over implementation delays. "We have to give the residents a little bit of more security."

The city's current primary alerting systems — including web alerts, reverse 911 calls, and Wireless Emergency Alerts — all depend on electricity and cellular service, which are frequently knocked out during the Santa Ana wind events that create Malibu's highest fire danger.

MULTIPLE TECHNOLOGIES UNDER

SEE **ALERT SYSTEMS** PAGE 15



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

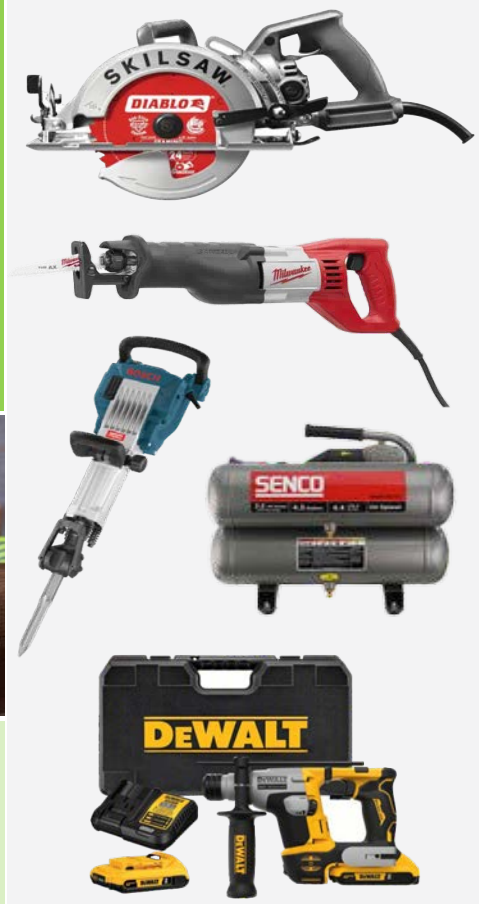
Buy Local SANTA MONICA
buylocalsantamonica.com
Support your community!

Tool Repair & Servicing

Bourget Bros. offers Expert Repair on all of your tools:

Compressors
Rotary Hammers
Strip Nailers
Cordless Tools
Pneumatic Tools
Demolition Hammers & More





Blade Sharpening
Saw Blades
Gardening Tools
Knifes and Scissors

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

All repair work meets factory regulations and comes with a 90-day warranty. Stop in or call us to schedule service.

Los Angeles County approves First-of-Its-Kind indoor temperature limit for rentals



Courtesy photo
HILDA L. SOLIS AND LINDSEY P. HORVATH: Chair Pro Tem Hilda L. Solis, who authored the ordinance alongside Third District Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath.

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has approved a groundbreaking ordinance establishing maximum indoor temperature limits for rental units, making it the first jurisdiction in the region to mandate such protections for tenants facing extreme heat.

The measure sets an 82-degree Fahrenheit ceiling for indoor temperatures in rental properties located in unincorporated areas of the county. It also grants tenants the right to install portable cooling devices without facing eviction, retaliation or additional charges from landlords.

Chair Pro Tem Hilda L. Solis, who authored the ordinance alongside Third District Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, said the policy addresses a deadly public health threat exacerbated by climate change.

"We know that extreme heat is not just uncomfortable. It is deadly," Solis said. "This ordinance is a critical, life-saving policy that prioritizes the health and dignity of renters, many of whom are children, older adults, people with disabilities and immigrant working families living in aging buildings without cooling."

SEE **TEMPERATURE** PAGE 12



City of Santa Monica
WOODLAWN
Cemetery
Mausoleum
Mortuary
FD #2101

Helping families honor, remember, and celebrate life.



• Traditional Burial • Green/Natural Burial • Cremation
• Funeral Planning & Mortuary Services
ALL IN ONE LOCATION

1847 14th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404 ▪ (310) 458-8717 (on-call - 24/7)
woodlawn.cemetery@santamonica.gov ▪ www.woodlawnsm.com

California's newest invaders are beautiful swans. Should hunters kill them?



Photo by Miguel Gutierrez Jr., CalMatters

BIRDS: A mute swan at the Grizzly Island Wildlife Area on Aug. 8, 2025.

On an early August morning, it didn't take long to spot the first pair of huge white swans with orange and black bills and graceful, curving necks as they swam in the marsh along the side of a Solano County levee road.

They dabbled in the vegetation as a pickup drove through the Grizzly Island Wildlife Area. A short drive later, past a herd of a dozen tule elk, two more swans appeared in the marsh alongside the dirt road. Then four more. A few hundred yards down the road, out in the distance past a thicket of swaying reeds, dozens of swans swam in the water.

For casual bird watchers, the sight of all these majestic animals might be a pleasure and bring to mind swan-themed works of literature, such as "Leda and the Swan" and "The Ugly Duckling."

But for wetland biologists and others with a stake in the health of the surrounding Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the largest estuary on the West Coast, the birds represent the latest – and an exponentially growing – threat to the few remaining wetlands left in California.

These are mute swans, native to Europe and Asia. Weighing up to 30 pounds and with a wingspan of up to eight feet, they're the biggest bird in the marsh, and they're not the least bit shy about throwing their weight around.

Fiercely territorial, especially during breeding season, they've been known to drown smaller animals and have killed at least one American kayaker. They've displaced colonies of nesting native birds in other parts of the U.S. they have invaded. Mute swans also feed gluttonously on submerged vegetation, destroying the plant life on which other native wetland species depend.

"They might be a pretty, big, white bird … and they may be charismatic, but they can be pretty nasty," said Brad Bortner, a retired chief of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's migratory bird management programs in Washington D.C.

In 2008, California banned anyone without a special permit from keeping mute swans as pets or from importing them into the state. The hope was to head off yet another destructive invasive species taking hold in the state.

It didn't work. The mute swan population exploded in just a few years. In 2022, state waterfowl biologists estimated there were 1,150 of them. This spring, they estimated more than 12,000, nearly double the year before. Most of the mute swans are in the Suisun Marsh, a sprawling complex of public wetlands, agricultural lands and private duck-hunting clubs on the outskirts of the Bay Area near Fairfield.

"We keep watching them climb and climb and climb," said Melanie Weaver, waterfowl coordinator for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

A measure before the state Legislature aims to allow hunters and landowners to shoot the swans for the next five years to try to bring their numbers down to more manageable levels in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and beyond.

The hunting groups supporting Assembly Bill 764 essentially ask: If Californians are OK with spending more than $13 million since 2018 to kill nearly 6,000 nutria, the 20-pound, orange-toothed South American rodents that have invaded the same waterways, why not let hunters and land owners do the same to mute swans – but for free?

"If the population gets too large and out of control, it may be beyond our ability then to really effectively manage them," Mark Hennelly, a lobbyist for the California

SEE **SWAN** PAGE 6



Weather

Friday: Cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 68. East wind 5 to 10 mph.
Friday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 65. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
Saturday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 68.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog. Otherwise, cloudy, with a low around 64.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2025/08/15	Fri	02:26 AM	3.34	H
2025/08/15	Fri	07:28 AM	1.98	L
2025/08/15	Fri	2:33 PM	5.57	H
2025/08/15	Fri	10:18 PM	0.99	L
2025/08/16	Sat	04:42 AM	2.94	H
2025/08/16	Sat	08:11 AM	2.58	L
2025/08/16	Sat	3:42 PM	5.64	H
2025/08/16	Sat	11:52 PM	0.47	L
2025/08/17	Sun	07:06 AM	3.17	H
2025/08/17	Sun	09:54 AM	3.01	L
2025/08/17	Sun	4:59 PM	5.80	H
2025/08/18	Mon	01:01 AM	-0.08	L
2025/08/18	Mon	08:08 AM	3.58	H
2025/08/18	Mon	11:44 AM	3.03	L
2025/08/18	Mon	6:10 PM	6.06	H
2025/08/19	Tue	01:54 AM	-0.51	L
2025/08/19	Tue	08:43 AM	3.92	H
2025/08/19	Tue	12:57 PM	2.76	L
2025/08/19	Tue	7:11 PM	6.34	H
2025/08/20	Wed	02:37 AM	-0.76	L
2025/08/20	Wed	09:12 AM	4.19	H
2025/08/20	Wed	1:53 PM	2.39	L
2025/08/20	Wed	8:02 PM	6.54	H
2025/08/21	Thu	03:14 AM	-0.83	L
2025/08/21	Thu	09:40 AM	4.42	H
2025/08/21	Thu	2:39 PM	2.04	L
2025/08/21	Thu	8:46 PM	6.58	H
2025/08/22	Fri	03:48 AM	-0.73	L
2025/08/22	Fri	10:08 AM	4.62	H
2025/08/22	Fri	3:20 PM	1.75	L
2025/08/22	Fri	9:26 PM	6.44	H
2025/08/23	Sat	04:18 AM	-0.48	L
2025/08/23	Sat	10:35 AM	4.78	H
2025/08/23	Sat	4:00 PM	1.55	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: 8/13
4 11 40 44 50
Power#: 4
Jackpot: 565 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 8/12
1 8 31 56 67
Mega#: 23
Jackpot: 198 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 8/13
12 15 21 26 36
Mega#: 11
Jackpot: 34 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 8/13
14 18 24 32 33

Daily 3
Draw Date: 8/13
EVENING: 4 5 1
Draw Date: 8/13
MIDDAY: 1 9 4

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 8/13
1st: 10 - Solid Gold
2nd: 01 - Gold Rush
3rd: 09 - Winning Spirit
Race Time: 1:43.10

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Devan Sipher,
Miles Warner.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Maaz Alin
maaz@smdp.com

LEGAL ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@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

Sustainable Quality Awards
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

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Introduction and First Reading of an Ordinance Amending the Text of the Santa Monica Municipal Code to Authorize Commercial Cannabis Uses within Certain Zoning Districts

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to introduce for first reading an Ordinance amending the text of the Santa Monica Municipal Code to authorize commercial cannabis uses within the City's non-residential zoning districts.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2025 AT 7:00 PM**

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 councilmtgitems@santamonica.gov or via mail to City Clerk, 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, California 90401. Written public comment submitted before 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be available for online viewing. All written comments shall be made part of the public record. Please note the agenda item number in the subject line of your written comments.

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

Address your comments to: City Clerk
Re: Cannabis Ordinance

VIA EMAIL: councilmtgitems@santamonica.gov
VIA MAIL: 1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION: If you want more information about this project, please contact Tony Kim by e-mail at tony.kim@santamonica.gov. For disability-related accommodations, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (310) 458-8211 or (310) 917-6626 TDD at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. 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 applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. 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.

Get the local news that matters to you!

Sign up for The CURRENT

SMDP's free daily newsletter for all your Santa Monica news & events!

POWERED BY smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Santa Monica Is Failing Us And It Could Cost Lives

Santa Monica's beauty and vibrancy have long made it a desirable place to live. But behind the palm trees and beachside charm is a City Council that has quietly placed residents in harm's way. How? By failing to comply with basic safety planning laws and by allowing unchecked development without first asking the most critical question: Can we safely evacuate?

If we can't get out, we can't survive.

Just months ago, chaos erupted in the Palisades as tens of thousands of residents scrambled to escape a fast-moving wildfire. Roads were gridlocked. Some fled on foot. Evacuation routes quickly became gridlocked, as they funneled onto Pacific Coast Highway. The routes simply lacked the capacity to move people to safety quickly enough. Cars were abandoned, emergency responders were blocked, and critical aid was delayed. Lives were put at risk.

And yet, despite this harrowing wake-up call just beyond our city's border, Santa Monica has done nothing to evaluate whether we could safely evacuate our 90,000 residents under similar conditions. This, despite a legal requirement to do so.

FAILING TO PLAN IS PLANNING TO FAIL: SANTA MONICA'S SAFETY PLAN IS ANYTHING BUT SAFE

In February 2025, the Santa Monica City Council adopted a revised "Safety Element." This is a legally required safety plan intended to help guide emergency preparedness and public safety decisions. By law, this document must include an analysis of the city's evacuation routes and their capacity under a variety of disaster scenarios.

Despite these legal requirements, Santa Monica's Safety Element contains no such capacity analysis. Zero. Despite acknowledging in its own document that the law requires evacuation capacity to be assessed, the City simply ignored this critical obligation.

For nearly a year, I have repeatedly requested, in writing, to the City staff and each of our current City Councilmembers that they conduct the legally required emergency evacuation route capacity analysis. In addition to my submitted written requests, I've spoken during public comment, prepared a video, and raised the issue face-to-face at community events. And yet, despite all these efforts, there has been no progress. No action. No accountability. Just silence, while the risk to residents grows by the day.

RHNA IS NOT A SUICIDE PACT

As the City continues to approve massive new developments, we still don't know if the tens of thousands of Santa Monica residents, workers, and tourists can safely and timely evacuate in the event of a tsunami, fire, earthquake or other disaster. City Councilmembers are knowingly playing Russian Roulette with our safety.

Some City Councilmembers claim they're powerless to slow the wave of rapid development because state housing mandates, known as the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA), require Santa Monica to build thousands of new units, leaving the City with no ability to push back. But that simply isn't true.

State law codified in Government Code §65584.04(e)(2)(E) explicitly states that emergency evacuation route capacity can be used as a constraint to limit a city's housing allocations, if the City provides the necessary data.

But Santa Monica has not even tried. It inexplicably prefers to expose its residents to increasing disaster risk while turning a blind eye to its legal requirement to assess the capacity of our emergency evacuation routes. Basic public safety questions are not being asked, let alone answered. With the recent proposal for an 8-story development at 2800 28th Street, one has to ask: are our fire trucks equipped to respond to a building of that height? According to the City's website, Fire Station 1 has a single ladder truck capable of reaching up to seven stories, not eight.

Instead of making efforts to ensure the safety of its residents, the City Council has passively accepted housing allocations and development projects that could endanger lives. And, up until now, these allocations have excluded consideration of the airport parcels. If the City proceeds with plans to close the airport, they are inviting even more dense, high-rise development.

If the airport is closed, not only does Santa Monica lose a critical emergency response resource, we also forfeit the federal protections that currently safeguard the airport and surrounding areas. These protections include the height limitations outlined in the Airport's Master Plan. So long as the airport remains operational, proposed developments within the airport's conical protection zone must undergo an FAA review to assess not only height impacts, but also other potential hazards to aviation such as light reflections, radio frequency interference, disruption to ground-based navigation, and adverse effects on noise contours. The FAA review process is a federal requirement that cannot be bypassed by state housing mandates or City Council.

Closing the airport eliminates these federal oversight mechanisms, opening the floodgates to unchecked development and maximum buildout. The result? Even greater pressure on our already overburdened emergency evacuation routes, putting residents at serious risk when it matters most.

OTHER CITIES ARE ACTING. WHY ISN'T OURS?

SEE **FAILING** PAGE 12

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Santa Monica Residents Must Act Now to Protect Our Neighborhoods

At its last meeting, the Santa Monica City Council voted 5–2 to approve an emergency zoning ordinance that will reshape our city's single-family neighborhoods. The new rules allow up to 20 units on vacant residential lots, permit three-story buildings where only single-family homes were allowed before, and eliminate affordable housing fees for projects with five or fewer units. Setbacks and height limits have been relaxed, paving the way for dense development on formerly quiet streets.

The ordinance extends and amends regulations tied to California's SB 1123 (Starter Home Revitalization Act), effective July 1. While supporters say it will create "missing middle" housing, many residents — and even Mayor Lana Negrete — warned it will mostly benefit developers, drive speculation, displace long-term residents, and strain our infrastructure. Eliminating affordable housing fees for smaller projects could mean millions in lost funding for truly affordable units.

The Council passed this measure under a declared "emergency," bypassing the kind of extended public debate and thorough impact review such a drastic change deserves. Mayor Negrete and Councilmember Ellis Raskin voted no; Jesse Zwick, Dan Hall, Barry Snell, Caroline Torosis, and Natalya Zernitskaya voted yes.

WHAT'S AT STAKE:

· Increased congestion, reduced parking, and overburdened schools.

· The permanent loss of the open space and neighborhood character that make Santa Monica unique.

· Development patterns that could displace lower-income residents without delivering genuine affordability.

WHAT WE CAN DO TO OVERTURN THIS:

· Demand a repeal: Contact the Council and urge them to rescind the ordinance before it takes root.

· Push for a referendum: Under California law, residents can gather signatures to put the ordinance on the ballot for voters to decide.

· Organize and show up: Fill council chambers at every meeting; speak during public comment; form neighborhood coalitions.

· Engage the media: Write letters to the editor, call in to local radio, and use social media to inform fellow residents.

This ordinance is set to remain in effect until December 31, 2026 — plenty of time for developers to change our city forever. We have a narrow window to stop it before the bulldozers arrive. If you care about the livability, safety, and future of Santa Monica, now is the time to act.

SANTA MONICA CITIZENS: RALLY NOW TO RECLAIM CONTROL OF OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

Santa Monica's City Council has exploited a declared "housing emergency" to fast-track a sweeping ordinance—without adequate public debate—that fundamentally rewrites zoning rules. Now, single-family neighborhoods face the threat of being carved up for high-density development, with up to 20 units per lot, three-story buildings, and waived affordable housing fees for small developments under five units.

COUNCIL VOTE SUMMARY:

Approved by (5): Jesse Zwick, Dan Hall, Barry Snell, Caroline Torosis, Natalya Zernitskaya Opposed by (2): Mayor Lana Negrete, Councilmember Ellis Raskin

A normal, transparent planning process has been bypassed. Now is the moment to reverse this decision—legally, strategically, and powerfully.

ACTION STEPS TO REPEAL THE ORDINANCE

· Demand Repeal: Call, email, or visit council members and demand they rescind the emergency zoning ordinance before it becomes the norm.

· Mobilize a Referendum: California law allows residents to collect signatures to force a public vote. Let's initiate that drive immediately to halt progress.

· Occupy the Public Stage: Fill council chambers (2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m.), speak during public comment, and form neighborhood alliances to amplify your voice.

· Amplify the Message: Submit letters to the editor, use social media, and contact local media to spotlight the risks—congestion, displacement, and overwhelmed infrastructure.

COUNCIL MEMBER CONTACT INFORMATION

Mayor: Lana Negrete (Opposed) – Email: Lana.Negrete@santamonica.gov. Mayor Pro Tem: Caroline Torosis (Supported) – Email: Caroline.Torosis@santamonica.gov. Councilmember: Jesse Zwick (Supported) – Email: Jesse.Zwick@santamonica.gov. Councilmember: Dan Hall (Supported) – Email: Dan.Hall@santamonica.gov. Councilmember: Ellis Raskin (Opposed) – Email: Ellis.Raskin@santamonica.gov. Councilmember: Barry Snell (Supported) – Email: Barry.Snell@santamonica.gov. Councilmember: Natalya Zernitskaya (Supported) – Email: Natalya.Zernitskaya@santamonica.gov. Timing is Critical: The emergency ordinance is slated to remain in effect until December 31, 2026—but passage now means developers could begin reshaping neighborhoods within weeks. We must act before the first permit is filed.

Daniel Gregory, Santa Monica

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Building Community Power and Calling LA's Westsiders to Join Us in Action

Los Angeles is built on a shared promise. It is a mosaic of diverse communities bound together by creativity, innovation, and perseverance. We create great things... together.

But in the quieter stretches of the city, particularly within working-class immigrant neighborhoods, far from the Westside, that promise has felt increasingly fragile. Communities essential to our homes, schools, hospitals, and businesses now face unique pressures and disruptions from the uptick in immigration actions.

A recent conversation brought this reality home. I spoke with a Latina woman in Westlake. She is undocumented, living with her retirement-aged mother, her young U.S.-born daughter, and her chronically ill sister.

Each morning, her family's priority is safety. She looks through social media feeds to determine where authorities may be active, assessing whether today is "safe enough" for necessities like work, school, medicine, or groceries. The normalcy we take for granted is a constant calculation for her family.

Despite the court's restraining order, which the Trump Administration is already challenging, this is an ongoing challenge, and it is not abstract.

When immigration sweeps come through, authorities separate families in an instant, abandon children waiting at school, leave aging parents without their caregivers, and shatter the sense of security needed for community life. Our lively, rich community environment is part of what makes Los Angeles such a special place. When nearly 50% of our Los Angeles population adjusts their activity out of fear of being profiled or targeted, that affects the very fabric of life in LA.

What may be invisible to some is the daily reality for others.

The repercussions stretch well beyond individual households. Communal trust frays, local businesses struggle, and the ripples scatter across the city. We may not all notice when a household worker, a caregiver, or a beloved shopkeeper quietly disappears. Still, without them, Los Angeles loses much of what makes it vibrant, functional, and humane.

Trusted community organizations are wrestling with these impacts. Understanding that these challenges aren't occasional or easily solved is crucial. For our neighbors and families, uncertainty is the new normal. There's no "going back". Resilience must extend beyond mere survival. People impacted must repeatedly find the strength to hold on to some shred of dignity in the face of these continuous challenges.

This need for resilience inspired the creation of the Fuerza Fund, a new community-driven initiative from the Alliance for Better Community (ABC), a Latina/o advocacy organization, designed to close persistent funding gaps and empower Latina/o-led and serving organizations. While the long-term vision was already underway, the Fund was activated in the wake of January's devastating wildfires to support critical frontline work. It's not top-down aid. It's about partnership. We stand with our neighbors as they weather daily storms, providing financial support, coalition-building, and partnerships that help stabilize families and strengthen needed community infrastructure.

For Westside residents, including our Jewish, Asian, and interfaith neighbors, the moment calls for solidarity and beckons to our sense of shared destiny. LA's story is one of resilience. We are a city built by Natives, immigrants, and refugees. From the forced internment of Japanese Americans and attacks on Mexican Americans by sailors and soldiers spurring the Zoot Suit Riots, to the searing pain of the Rodney King beating and the uprising that followed, and the persecution in distant homelands and reverberating echoes of the Holocaust that many Angelenos fled, we have endured and overcome. We have led the fights for civil rights, women's rights, LGBTQ+ rights, and the rights of immigrants. We cannot and must not stand idle.

Together, every part of Los Angeles can meet hardship with imagination, love, and resolve.

Fuerza Fund provides the first-of-its-kind channel for this enduring commitment, welcoming individuals, congregations, businesses, and local leaders to learn more, get involved, and support authentic community solutions for our Latina/o neighbors. Together, we can reaffirm our values and belief in what Los Angeles is and what it could become. Our collective well-being doesn't rest on any single community, but on the strength of the bonds between us.

Now is the moment for each Angeleno to engage in open conversations in your social circles, explore ways your community can learn and support, share our history and stories, and seek what may be missing from fleeting headlines. We can and must stand together with hope and conviction in the face of the daily terrors of too many neighbors. The future of our city depends on it.

Vanessa Aramayo is the CEO of Alliance for Better Community LA. She is dedicated to advancing equity and amplifying the voices of our community's most marginalized families.

SWAN

FROM PAGE 3

Waterfowl Association, told the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee this spring. "So we want to get ahead of the problem."

ANIMAL WELFARE GROUPS OBJECT

That argument has so far been a surprisingly easy sell in the Legislature, despite California's passionate and influential anti-hunting activists. Similar swan-killing proposals have led to protests in other states.

The measure easily passed the Assembly without any lawmaker voting against it. It's now pending in the California Senate.

No group has opposed the measure so far, according to the CalMatters Digital Democracy database, but that might soon change.

Mute swans, unlike nutria, have a dedicated group of supporters, mostly on the East Coast.

Nicole Rivard, a spokesperson for Friends of Animals, said she and fellow members of the animal welfare organization believe mute swans shouldn't be treated like vermin.

The birds arrived here through no fault of their own, brought by humans, and they don't deserve to be killed for it, she said.

Rivard believes the California legislation is motivated by hunters looking for an excuse to have yet another bird to legally shoot. Currently, mute swans can only be killed by landowners if the birds "are found to be injuring growing crops or property," according to state regulations.

"We're anti-hunting, so we don't like the idea that (hunting) might be, you know, part of the reasoning behind this," Rivard said.

Arguing that claims of mute swans' environmental damage and aggression are overblown, Friends of Animals and other groups opposed killing them decades ago, after Mid-Atlantic states proposed eradication when their populations began expanding dramatically in the 1990s and early 2000s.

The groups protested, filed lawsuits and proposed legislation to try to stop the killing. They had mixed success. Some states began killing the nonnative swans over the animal welfare groups' objections. Notably, Maryland was able to knock the mute swan population down from around 5,000 birds in the early 2000s to around 200 by 2010.

"Continued control and maintenance operations have reduced that number to just a handful of birds today," said Josh Homyack, the game bird section leader for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

In Maryland, government agency employees raided mute swan nests and destroyed eggs, captured and euthanized swans when they were flightless during their feather-molting season and shot them in carefully coordinated operations, Homyack said. The state also issued a few permits to kill the birds to local landowners.

In New York, the mute swan lobby got a law passed that made it harder to kill the birds, requiring state officials to "fully exhaust non-lethal control measures" such as nest destruction and capturing birds and moving them to wildlife facilities "prior to any lethal removal."

The mute swan population in New York has stayed steady at around 2,000 to 3,400 birds.

CHARISMA MATTERS WITH INVASIVE SPECIES

On the East Coast, mute swans have been around since before the turn of the last century. They were first imported as ornamental livestock for zoos, parks and estates.

Some of California's mute swans likely came in the same way. Weaver, the California waterfowl coordinator, said others were likely brought in the past few years to chase away Canada geese that have increasingly become a nuisance at parks and golf courses.

"People were buying these (swans), and they were just throwing them out there," she said.

Weaver noted their owners didn't do the responsible thing and clip their wings to keep them from flying off. That's hardly surprising. It's no easy task to grab a hissing 25-pound swan, big and angry enough to swamp a kayaker. So with nothing to stop them, the birds flew to nearby marshlands and began reproducing.

"Here we are, not very many years down the road, with a population that is really increasing at a rapid rate," Weaver said.

So far, California's wildlife agency hasn't enacted a mute swan eradication plan similar to the one it started almost immediately – and publicly promoted – a few years ago, after nutria first started turning up in the San Joaquin Valley.

Nutria are similarly destructive feeders on aquatic plants. The South American swamp rodents also burrow holes in levees, posing a threat to the state's flood-control and water-supply infrastructure.

Dave Strayer, a retired invasive species expert with the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies in New York, said he's not surprised state officials haven't been as aggressive with the beautiful mute swans, given the uproar over killing them in other states.

He said research has shown that when it comes to invasive animals, charisma matters. The more attractive a problematic non-native species is, the less appetite there is to wipe it out.

Stayer gave an example: Few complain about killing common nonnative rats, but you're apt to get death threats at even the suggestion of wiping out ecologically harmful feral cat colonies in the same habitats.

He noted that no one has ever complained about efforts to eradicate one of his research subjects, the nonnative zebra mussels that have also invaded California.

"I never had even one person stand up for zebra mussels and say, 'No, these are beautiful, elegant God's creatures' and so forth," he said.

FEW WETLANDS AND TOO MANY MUTE SWANS

Supporters of the swan-killing legislation say reducing the number of mute swans should be fairly easy since the giant white birds are easy to spot, identify and kill. Their size and the color and shape of their bills also reduce the risk they'll be confused with other protected bird species, they say.

California's native tundra and trumpeter swans would still be protected and illegal to shoot if the bill becomes law.

Despite their undeniable beauty, Weaver, the state waterfowl coordinator, sees mute swans similarly to nutria.

The swans pose too great a threat to native species reliant on the few wetlands left in California, which has lost at least 90% of the habitats to agriculture and urban sprawl.

"They don't move around the state all that much, and they really like the Delta-Suisun Marsh area, so it's still easy to handle the issue," Weaver said. "The longer we wait, it won't be."

By Ryan Sabalow. This article was originally published by CalMatters.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Native American Rights to Colorado River Water

When seven states got together in 1922 to effectively divide up Colorado River usage, their resulting compact declared: "Nothing in this compact shall be construed as affecting the obligations of the United States of America to Indian tribes." So, even more than a century ago, states recognized that Native Americans had rights to Colorado River water and, even earlier in 1908, the U.S. Supreme Court said in Winters v. U.S., that when we dedicated land to reservations it included enough water to make them habitable.

But the reservation treaties never said just how much water. A case of: Next question, please!

We still don't know how much. But, thanks to University of Colorado Law School research, we know it is a lot. It is probably around 4 million acre-feet, which is about a third of the entire natural river flow, About a third of the Native American allotment, around 1.5 million acre-feet, is what the water community calls "wet water." That is, water actually delivered to Indian Tribes. About another third has not yet been formally adjudicated, and the remaining water has been adjudicated but Congress hasn't appropriated funds to build the pipes to get the water to the reservations.

That last third creates what water insiders call "paper water," recognized in paper agreements but not actually delivered.

(An acre-foot is enough water to cover a football field, not including the end zones, with 12" of water. Water providers used to say it was enough water for two families for a year, now it's enough for three, but on the Navajo reservation, where many subsist on 10 gallons a day or less, it supports about 80 people.)

All that history is becoming more important because we face a deadline. Political procrastination over decades has pushed nearly every aspect of Colorado River allocation into a series of 2026 federal deadlines. It's not unfair to describe it as a comprehensive reform of how we use the Colorado, which heavily supports both Southern California agriculture and Los Angeles drinking water supplies. If the states and other stakeholders, like the Indian Tribes, cannot agree, then the Trump Administration will likely decide for them.

Federal reclamation officials are soliciting alternatives from stakeholders in the "2026 Negotiations." The Upper Basin states of Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, and New Mexico say they're planning to use about 50 percent MORE than the four million acre-feet they've historically used to "grow into their supplies." The Lower Basin states, including California, might be seen as a bit more practical, agreeing to immediately drop use to six million acre-feet, 80% of what they received in the 1922 Compact. But, still, they argue that the Upper Basin will have to absorb half of any cutbacks over that.

True to form, neither Basin plan said much about Indian water rights. Next question, please!

As many Southern California residents no doubt recall, in 2000 the Colorado River supply started dropping. The river had sustained a natural flow of about 15.2 million acre-feet per year all the way from 1906 to 2000 but dropped to only 10 million acre-feet per year from 2000 to 2004.

Things have improved, but only a bit—the last 25-year annual flow is about 12.5 million acre-feet—but with hotter temperatures, scientists expect the average natural annual flow by around 2050 to be closer to the 2000-2004 average of 10 million acre-feet per year.

Of course, it could be less. We don't know.

In 2007, those same seven Compact States from back in 1922 agreed on "operating criteria" to govern how much water gets released from Lake Powell and Lake Mead. The federal Bureau of Reclamation, formed in 1902 to build those and all the other big dams in the West, drafted the 2007 Interim Guidelines to balance releases between Lake Powell and Lake Mead. In 2000, those reservoirs were 96 percent full. By 2005, they were less than 50 percent full, and today they're 33 percent full.

And, remember, the Indian Tribes are still getting only about a third of their water.

Those 2007 Guidelines were based on demand: releases that were geared to meet Lower Basin states demand – California, Arizona, and Nevada, which the 1922 Colorado River Compact set at 7.5 million acre-feet a year. The 2007 Guidelines could have said water would be released based on supply, meaning how much the reservoirs actually held, but instead they focused on what the Compact said the states could demand. Come hell or low water.

As the name implies, the 2007 Interim Guidelines were short-term, set to expire in 2026 because a lone environmentalist, described on page 14 of the guidelines, told Reclamation we need to check in after 20 years to see how the fish and birds are doing.

Well, we might start that evaluation by noting we have completely dried up the last 75 miles of the Colorado River into the Gulf of California for most of the last 100 years, really since Hoover Dam was built in 1933. That now-dry area was formerly a productive estuary and important flyway for migrating birds. There are now four endangered fish species living in the Colorado River, and as many as 151 imperiled fish in rivers in the seven Colorado River basin states. From a river's

SEE **NATIVE** PAGE 15

Social Security has existed for 90 years. Why it may be more threatened than ever

When President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act into law 90 years ago this week, he said it would provide economic stability to older people while giving the U.S. "an economic structure of vastly greater soundness."

Today, the program provides benefits to almost 69 million Americans each month. It's a major source of income for people older than 65 and is popular across the country and political lines.

It also looks more threatened than ever.

Just as it has for decades, Social Security faces a looming shortfall in money to pay full benefits. Since President Donald Trump took office in January, the program has faced more tumult. Agency staffing has been slashed. Unions and advocacy groups concerned about sharing sensitive information have sued. Administration officials, including the president, have falsely claimed that millions of dead people were receiving Social Security benefits. Former top adviser Elon Musk said the program was a potential "Ponzi scheme."

At an Oval Office event Thursday commemorating the program's anniversary, Trump said that under his watch "we're strengthening it." But the president and Republicans who control Congress have not proposed a long-term solution to shore up the program.

Social Security remains far from the sound economic system that Roosevelt envisioned, due to changes made — and not made — under both Democratic and Republican presidents.

Here's a look at past and current challenges to Social Security, the proposed solutions and what it could take to shore up the program.

THE GO-BROKE DATE HAS BEEN MOVED UP

The so-called go-broke date — or the date at which Social Security will no longer have enough funds to pay full benefits — has been moved up to 2034, instead of last year's estimate of 2035. After that point, Social Security would only be able to pay 81% of benefits, according to an annual report released in June. The earlier date came as new legislation affecting Social Security benefits have contributed to earlier projected depletion dates, the report concluded.

The Social Security Fairness Act, signed into law by Democratic President Joe Biden and enacted in January, had an impact. It repealed the Windfall Elimination and Government Pension Offset provisions, increasing Social Security benefit levels for former public workers.

The new tax law signed by Trump in July will accelerate the insolvency of Social Security, said Brendan Duke at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

"They haven't laid out an idea to fix it yet," he said. Trump on Thursday repeated the claim that his new tax and spending law will eliminate taxes on federal Social Security benefits.

That law has a temporary tax deduction for people 65 and over that applies to all income, not just Social Security. But not all Social Security beneficiaries can claim it; among those who cannot are low-income older adults who do not pay taxes on Social Security.

AARP CEO Myechia Minter-Jordan said the number of beneficiaries is set to increase to 82 million people by the time Social Security turns 100.

"As we look ahead to the next 90 years of Social Security, it's critical that it remains strong for generations to come," she said in a statement.

THE PRIVATIZATION CONVERSATION HAS BEEN REVIVED

The notion of privatizing Social Security surfaced most recently when Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent this month said new tax-deferred investment accounts dubbed " Trump accounts " may serve as a " backdoor to privatization," though Treasury has walked back those comments.

The public has been widely against the idea of privatizing Social Security since Republican President George W. Bush embarked on a campaign to pitch privatization of the program in 2005, through voluntary personal retirement accounts. The plan was not well-received by the public.

Glenn Hubbard, a Columbia University professor and top economist in Bush's White House, told The Associated Press that Social Security needs to be reduced in size in order to maintain benefits for generations to come. He supports limiting benefits for wealthy retirees.

"We will have to make a choice," Hubbard said. "If you want Social Security benefits to look like they are today, we're going to have to raise everyone's taxes a lot. And if that's what people want, that's a menu, and you pay the high price and you move on."

Another option would be to increase minimum benefits and slow down benefit growth for everyone else, which Hubbard said would right the ship without requiring big tax increases, if it's done over time.

"It's really a political choice," he said, adding "Neither one of those is pain free."

Nancy Altman, president of Social Security Works, an advocacy group for the preservation of Social Security benefits, is more worried that the administration of benefits could be privatized under Trump, rather than a move toward privatized accounts. The agency cut more than 7,000 from its workforce this year as part of the Department of Government Efficiency's effort to reduce the size of the government.

A Social Security Administration representative didn't respond to a request for comment.

CONCERNS PERSIST

An Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research poll conducted in April found that an increasing share of older Americans — particularly Democrats — support the program but aren't confident the benefit will be available to them when they retire.

"So much of what we hear is that its running out of money," said Becky Boober, 70, from Rockport, Maine, who recently retired after decades in public service. She

SEE **SOCIAL SECURITY** PAGE 12

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

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

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

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) 736-2589
WWW.ALANRUBENSTEINDDS.COM



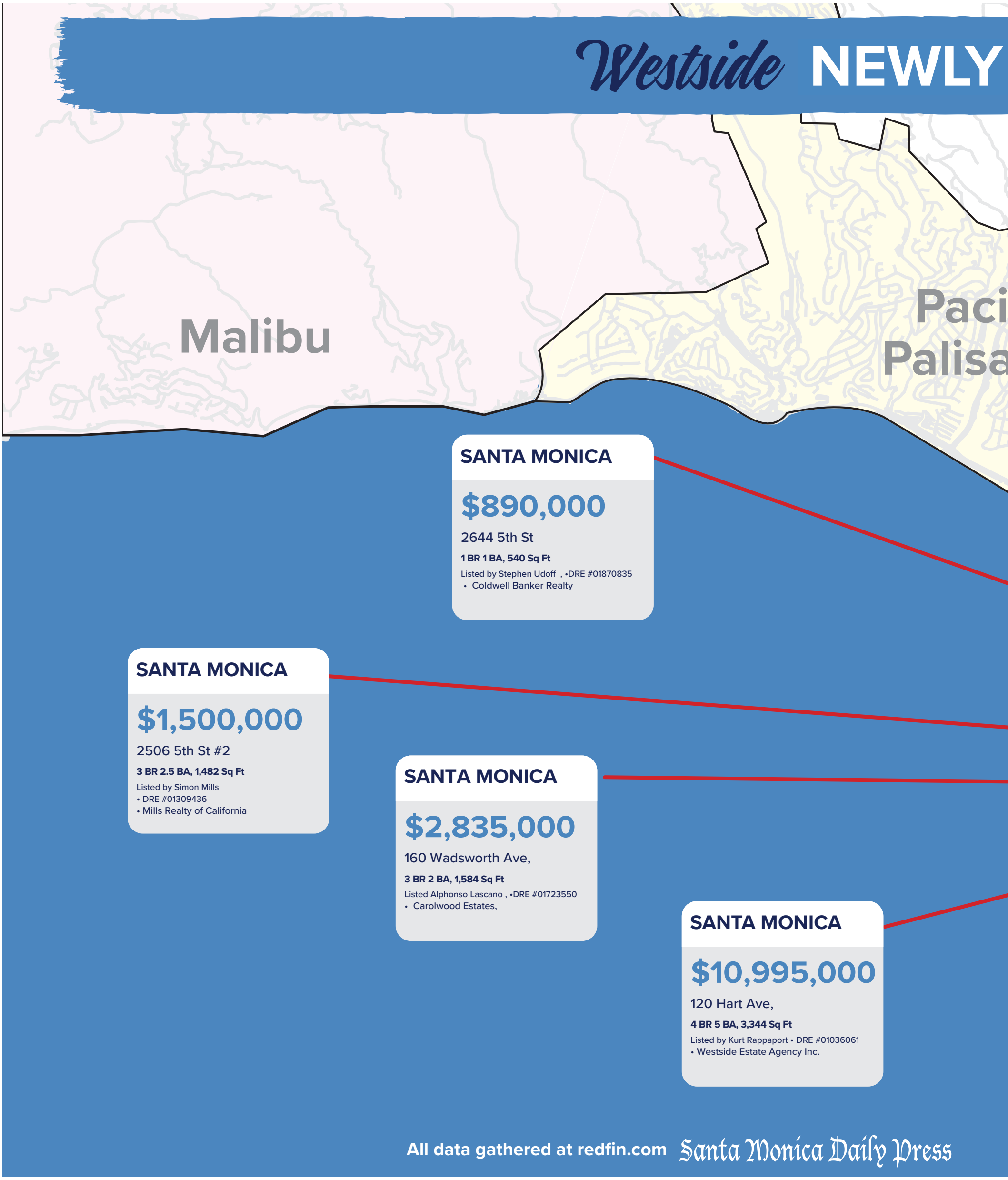
Authentically SANTA MONICA

Since opening its doors in 1921, the iconic Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows has remained one of the most exciting places to stay in Los Angeles. Located along Ocean Avenue in downtown Santa Monica, The Miramar is the city's premier address for both locals and world travelers. From lush grounds and sweeping ocean views to the comfort of our guestrooms, suites, and exclusive bungalows, this urban resort delivers bespoke service. Your perfect seaside escape awaits.

Fairmont
MIRAMAR HOTEL & BUNGALOWS
SANTA MONICA

101 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD, SANTA MONICA, CA 90401 | FAIRMONT-MIRAMAR.COM | @FAIRMONTMIRAMAR | 1 310 576 7777

Westside NEWLY



SANTA MONICA

$890,000

2644 5th St

1 BR 1 BA, 540 Sq Ft

Listed by Stephen Udoff , •DRE #01870835
• Coldwell Banker Realty

SANTA MONICA

$1,500,000

2506 5th St #2

3 BR 2.5 BA, 1,482 Sq Ft

Listed by Simon Mills
• DRE #01309436
• Mills Realty of California

SANTA MONICA

$2,835,000

160 Wadsworth Ave,

3 BR 2 BA, 1,584 Sq Ft

Listed Alphonso Lascano , •DRE #01723550
• Carolwood Estates,

SANTA MONICA

$10,995,000

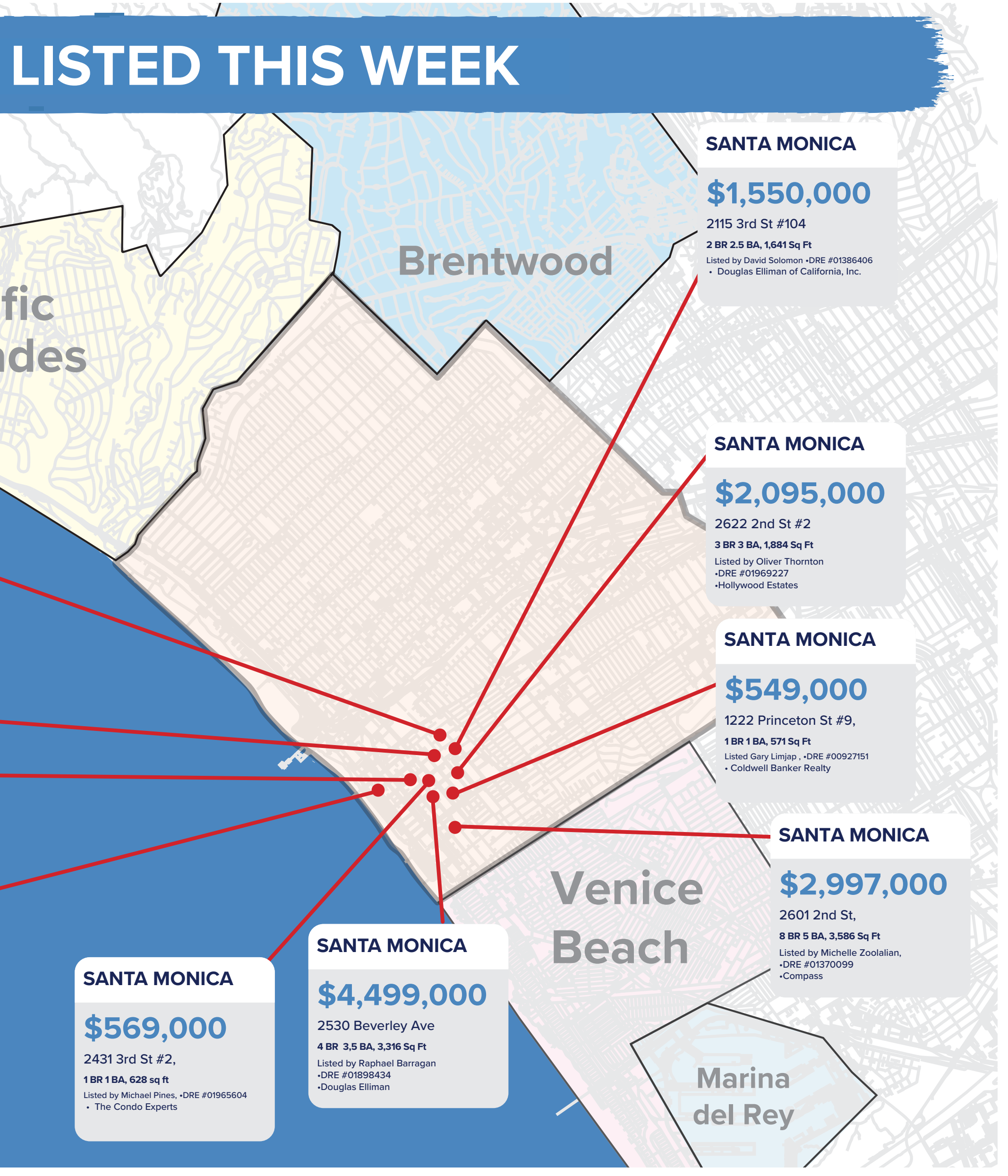
120 Hart Ave,

4 BR 5 BA, 3,344 Sq Ft

Listed by Kurt Rappaport • DRE #01036061
• Westside Estate Agency Inc.

All data gathered at redfin.com

LISTED THIS WEEK



SANTA MONICA

$1,550,000

2115 3rd St #104

2 BR 2.5 BA, 1,641 Sq Ft

Listed by David Solomon •DRE #01386406
• Douglas Elliman of California, Inc.

SANTA MONICA

$2,095,000

2622 2nd St #2

3 BR 3 BA, 1,884 Sq Ft

Listed by Oliver Thornton
•DRE #01969227
•Hollywood Estates

SANTA MONICA

$549,000

1222 Princeton St #9,

1 BR 1 BA, 571 Sq Ft

Listed Gary Limjap , •DRE #00927151
• Coldwell Banker Realty

SANTA MONICA

$2,997,000

2601 2nd St,

8 BR 5 BA, 3,586 Sq Ft

Listed by Michelle Zoolalian,
•DRE #01370099
•Compass

SANTA MONICA

$569,000

2431 3rd St #2,

1 BR 1 BA, 628 sq ft

Listed by Michael Pines, •DRE #01965604
• The Condo Experts

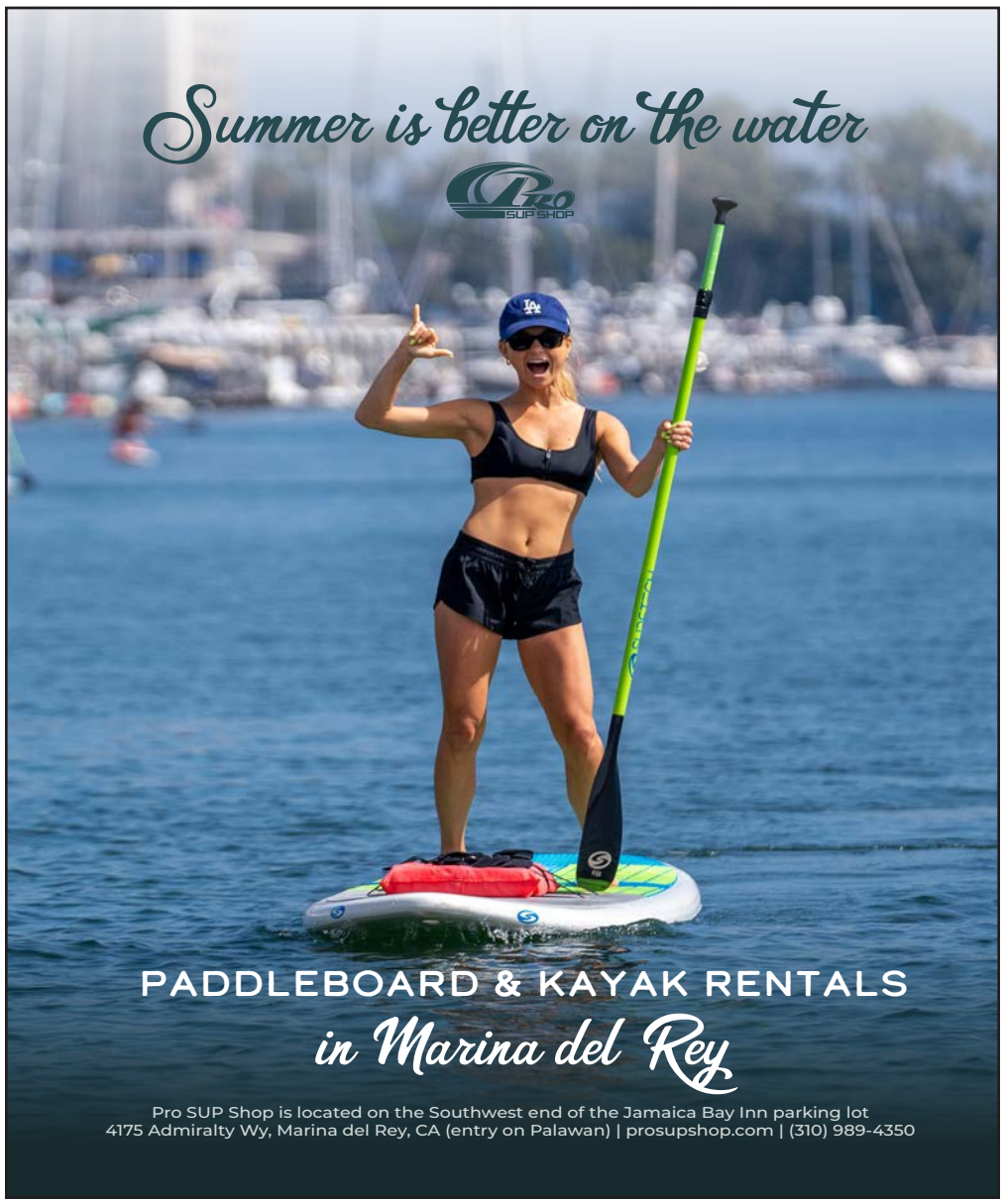
SANTA MONICA

$4,499,000

2530 Beverley Ave

4 BR 3,5 BA, 3,316 Sq Ft

Listed by Raphael Barragan
•DRE #01898434
•Douglas Elliman





COMMUNITY NEWS

Malibu

City of Malibu Launches Fall 2025 Recreation Programs

The City of Malibu's Fall 2025 Recreation Guide and City Newsletter is now available online at MalibuCity.org/CommunityServices and will be mailed to Malibu residents this week.

The guide showcases the city's recreation programs for all ages, parks and facilities, as well as informative articles and contact information for city departments and services. Residents can sign up using the city's new online registration platform.

"Fall in Malibu is a wonderful time to get outside, get active, and enjoy some of the city's excellent programs, classes, sports and events," said Mayor Marianne Riggins. "From wellness workshops to free family-friendly community events, our programs help strengthen the connections that make Malibu such a special place."

Riggins emphasized the importance of community activities as the city continues recovering from wildfires.

"As we continue to recover from the wildfires, investing in community activities is an important part of our healing and resilience," she said.

Programs running September through November include afterschool programs in partnership with the Boys & Girls Club of Malibu, sunset hikes at Charmlee Wilderness Park, wellness workshops with The Mindry, parent-and-me programs, poetry workshops and Senior Center activities.

The guide also highlights upcoming special events including the Malibu Library Speaker Series, Senior Resource Fair and Halloween Bu Bash Carnival.

This season marks the launch of the city's partnership with Rec Technologies, introducing a mobile-first online registration platform designed to make signing up more accessible and convenient. Residents can now register for programs and reserve facilities from their phones, with new payment options including Google Pay and Apple Pay. Program participants can also check in using a personal QR code.

Registration for fall programs opens Wednesday, Aug. 27 at 8 a.m. at MalibuCity.org/Register. For ongoing updates and details on Community Services programs, visit MalibuCity.org/CommunityServices.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

Santa Monica

Pacific Park Offers $1 West Coaster Rides for National Roller Coaster Day

Pacific Park on the Santa Monica Pier will celebrate National Roller Coaster Day with $1 rides on its West Coaster on Saturday, Aug. 16, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Visitors can get the special barcode by following @pacpark on Instagram and watching for Thursday's post to unlock the promotional deal. The offer provides an opportunity to experience the steel roller coaster's double-helix design and ocean views at a reduced price.

The West Coaster races 55 feet above the Santa Monica Pier deck and 95 feet over the Pacific Ocean, reaching speeds of 35 mph while offering views of the Southern California coastline. The ride runs from one end of Pacific Park to the other.

National Roller Coaster Day is celebrated annually on Aug. 16, commemorating one of the first roller coaster patents granted to Edwin Prescott in 1898 for a looping coaster. The day celebrates roller coasters and encourages people to visit amusement parks to experience the thrill of these rides.

LaMarcus Thompson is widely credited as the "father of the roller coaster" for developing the "Switchback Railway" at Coney Island in 1884.

Pacific Park, located at 380 Santa Monica Pier, is Los Angeles' only admission-free amusement park. The facility features 12 amusement rides, 14 midway games, Snackville with five food offerings and seaside retail shopping.

Prices and operating hours are subject to change. For more information and operating hours, visit pacpark.com, Facebook.com/pacificpark, Instagram.com/pacpark or X.com/pacpark, or call 310-260-8744.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



Courtesy photo

PIER: National Roller Coaster Day with $1 rides on West Coaster on Saturday, Aug. 16.



FRIDAY | AUGUST 15

MUSIC TIME WITH MISS KYM

10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Pico Branch Library 2201 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica. Accompanied by her keyboard, Miss Kym guides children and their caregivers in singing, dancing, and creative expression, blending her original songs with classic children's tunes. For ages 5 and under. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/music-time-with-miss-kym/16220802/2025-08-15T10

LIVE MUSIC FRIDAYS AT THE SURFING FOX

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. 120 Colorado Ave Santa Monica, CA. Erinn Alissa performs acoustic folk pop with her guitar Friday nights at The Surfing Fox. Enjoy a night of live music, tasty bites, and Foxtails! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/live-music-fridays-at-the-surfing-fox/14385252/2025-08-15T18

SATURDAY | AUGUST 16

WHO'S TOMATO REIGNS SUPREME?

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Ishihara Park Learning Garden 2909 Exposition Blvd Santa Monica. The Annual Best Tomato in Santa Monica is upon us. Is your Big Rainbow, Cherokee Purple or Better Boy the cream of the crop? Bring your home grown tomatoes and see how they compare to others. All tomatoes must be registered by 9:30 AM to be eligible for the competition. Don't grow tomatoes? Come see what type of tomatoes others are growing, see if you can find the Moon and Stars, measure yourself against our glass gem corn, check out the trombetta squash and view the new mural on the garden shed. Garden pancakes ready at 9, warm conversation all morning. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/who-s-tomato-reigns-supreme-/16455882/2025-08-16T10

AUGUST NOTHIN BUT SAND BEACH CLEAN UP

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Will Rogers State Beach 17000 Pacific Coast Hwy, Tower 7 Pacific Palisades, CA. Join us for the first public marine debris cleanup and data collection event at Will Rogers since the wildfires. Community is essential to rebuilding with resilience, and we at Heal the Bay are honored to bring people together for a day of healing, education, action, and citizen science. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/august-nothin-but-sand-beach-clean-up/16415152/2025-08-16T10

TOUR THE PURE WATER SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA INNOVATION CENTER

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Join our Safe Clean Water team for an exclusive tour of the Grace F. Napolitano Pure Water Southern California Innovation Center in Carson. Learn how this advanced facility produces 500,000 gallons of purified water every day using innovative treatment technology. You'll also get an inside look at what happens to the stormwater diverted to the plant from the South Santa Monica Bay. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/tour-the-pure-water-southern-california-innovation-center/16265218/2025-08-16T10

BEGINNER REFORMER PILATES AT GOOD BODY PILATES STUDIO

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Good Body Pilates Studio 3229 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica Good Body Pilates Studio Santa Monica. Start your Saturday feeling strong, centered, and energized with our Beginner Reformer Pilates Class at Good Body Pilates Studio, taught by expert instructor Kylie. This group class is perfect for those new to Pilates or anyone looking to reconnect with the fundamentals in a welcoming and supportive environment. No experience necessary! Located in the heart of Santa Monica on Pico Boulevard, right across from Trader Joe's, our boutique studio is surrounded by great local coffee shops and restaurants, making it the perfect place to kick off your weekend. Plenty of metered parking available on Pico Blvd, and both metered and free street parking available on Urban Ave. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/beginner-reformer-pilates-at-good-body-pilates-studio/16094481/2025-08-16T10

BUTTERFLY BRAWL PRO BOXING ON THE PIER!

2:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Santa Monica Pier 200 Santa Monica Pier, Ste A Santa Monica. Featuring MIXMASTER MIKE of the BEASTIE BOYS! PROFESSIONAL BOXING LIVE ON THE SANTA MONICA PIER 12 fights, tons of fun in the sun. VIP tickets and experiences available, don't miss this killer event! Scheduled BoutsDeAngelo Evans vs. Justin CardonaBrianda Tamara Cruz vs. TBARodrigo Mosquera III vs. TBAChantel Navarro vs. Montana WeemsVlad Panin vs. John MoraldeEryk Apresyan vs. Terrell AdamsAlexis Alvarado vs. Garen DiaganJason Robledo vs. Julio TanoriDani Davtian vs. Emond DriverMarcus Portillio vs. Andres ParraFrancisco Cruz vs. TBAIsiah Carr vs. Daniel LimJaydon Vigil vs. TBAJoseph Subia vs. TBAJesus Diego vs. Logan Randolph. $100.00 to $500.00. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/butterfly-brawl-pro-boxing-on-the-pier-/16201703/2025-08-16T14

GATHER AND GROW: SUNSHINE AND STRINGS

4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Reed Park Santa Monica, CA. Come join us for a delightful afternoon of music - participate in a ukulele strum-a-long (please bring your own instrument; there will be a handful to check out onsite). After, sit back and check out a performance from String Theory. This gorgeous westside performance ensemble combines music, movement, and large-scale sound sculptures to bring you a one-of-a-kind experience. This one is not to be missed! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/gather-and-grow-sunshine-and-strings/16394967/2025-08-16T16

BRISK FESTIVAL LA 2025

6:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. Morgan-Wixson Theatre 2627 Pico Bvd Santa Monica, CA 888-818-5098. Brisk Festival LA Celebrates Its 5th Edition with 49 Plays, 33 in English and 16 in Spanish, Over 200 Artists, and a Fresh Take on Contemporary Theater From August 16 to September 7, 2025, Brisk Festival LA returns to the Morgan-Wixson Theater with a bold new edition showcasing 49 short plays—33 in English and 16 in Spanish—written, directed, and performed by over 200 artists from across the globe. Following the successful launch of its first international edition in Buenos Aires, the festival is back in Los Angeles to celebrate five editions of storytelling that transcends language and geography. Produced by Full Emotions and founded by actor and filmmaker Christian Rodrigo, Brisk has become a vital platform for independent theater, amplifying new voices and fostering cultural exchange through the performing arts. $19.00 to $29.00. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/brisk-festival-la-2025/16402497/2025-08-16T18

SUNDAY | AUGUST 17

BANNED BOOKS READING GROUP

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. West Los Angeles Regional Library 11360 Santa Monica Boulevard Los Angeles. Banned Books Reading Group The banned books reading group reads and discusses materials that have been historically challenged or are on the American Library Association's "Banned and Challenged Books" lists. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/banned-books-reading-group/15607288/2025-08-17T14

THE FREQUENCY OF LIVING THINGS

4:00 p.m. Brentwood Country Mart 225 26th Street, Suite #33 Santa Monica. A heartbreaking American epic about three sisters who unearth lifetimes of family tensions as they are forced to rescue one of their own from peril, testing the limits of sacrifice, sisterhood, and forgiveness from the author of the "profound work of great wisdom" (Alice Elliott Dark) The Great Transition.Josie may be the youngest sister, but she takes care of everyone. She is the left-brained scientist to her twin sisters' right-brained artistic chaos. She makes sure their rent gets paid on time, they make their therapy appointments, and has also been their de-facto band manager since she was a teenager. When Ara, her middle sister (by a few minutes), calls from jail, it isn't exactly a surprise, and Josie knows exactly how to snap into action. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-frequency-of-living-things/16464733/2025-08-17T16

VENICE ELECTRIC LIGHT PARADE - SUNDAYS AT SUNSET

Windward Plaza 1501 Ocean Front Walk Venice. Join the Magic of the Venice Electric Light Parade Every Sunday Night! Looking for a unique and vibrant way to end your weekend? The Venice Electric Light Parade (VELP) is here to light up your Sunday evenings! Founded by Marcus Gladney, this family-friendly weekly event celebrates community, creativity, and safe cycling. Bring your LED-lit bicycle and join us for an unforgettable ride along the iconic Venice Beach. Details: When: Every Sunday evening. Meet 45 minutes before sunset. Where: Windward Plaza, Venice Beach. Who: Open to everyone! Bring your bike, lights, and good vibes. Cost: FREE to join! Experience the magic of glowing bikes, amazing sound bikes playing great music, and the welcoming energy of the Venice community. The parade follows a strict no-smoking or drinking policy, ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience for all. Why Join? Connect with old and new friends. Celebrate the artistic and cultural spirit of Venice. Enjoy a safe and fun environment for all ages. So, light up your ride, bring your friends, and join us this Sunday at Windward Plaza. Don't forget to turn on your lights and practice safe cycling at night! Let's ride into the sunset together! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/venice-electric-light-parade-sundays-at-sunset/14970341/2025-08-17T00

MONDAY | AUGUST 18

6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. SUSHI CLASS AND SAKE TASTING

2535 South Barrington Avenue Los Angeles. Roll, Sip, Savor. Join us for an unforgettable hands-on sushi-making experience paired with a curated sake tasting. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/sushi-class-and-sake-tasting/16348562/2025-08-18T18

GET IT DAILY...

SOCIAL SECURITY

FROM PAGE 7

relies on Social Security to keep her finances afloat, is grateful for the program and thinks it should be expanded.

"In my mind there are several easy fixes that are not a political stretch," she said. They include raising the income tax cap on high-income earners and possibly raising the retirement age, which is currently 67 for people born after 1960, though she is less inclined to support that change.

SOME CALL FOR SHRINKING THE PROGRAM

Rachel Greszler is a senior research fellow at the Heritage Foundation, the group behind the Project 2025 blueprint for Trump's second term. It called for an increase in the retirement age.

Greszler says Social Security no longer serves its intended purpose of being a social safety net for low-income older adults and is far too large. She supports pursuing privatization, which includes allowing retirees to put their Social Security taxes into a personal investment account.

She also argues for shrinking the program to a point where every retiree would receive the same Social Security benefit so long as they worked the same number of years, which she argues would increase benefits for the bottom one-third of earners. How this would impact middle-class earners is unclear.

By FATIMA HUSSEIN Associated Press

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

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

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 06/13/25 2025119607The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Zia Tile 8467 Easter Ave Bell Gardens, CA 9021. . Los AngelesArticles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Zia Ventures LLC 8467 Easter Ave Bell Gardens, CA 9021 If corporation or LLC- Print State of CA This is Business is Conducted: A Limited Libility Company . The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. Registrant /Corp/ LLC Zia Ventures LLC Title: Owner Mike Leflore . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 07/9/2025NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE County CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code).

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2025134852 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 7/29/2025 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as COCOMELT. 734 NOWITA PLACE, VENICE, CA, 90291. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: SHILPA LOKAREDDY 734 NOWITA PLACE VENICE, CA, 90291. This Business is being conducted by: Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:SHILPA LOKAREDDY-Owner. SHILPA LOKAREDDY. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 7/29/2025. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 08/11/25, 08/18/25, 08/25/25, 09/01/25.

Help Wanted

VP, ENGGumGum Sports Inc. (dba Relo Metrics) has an oppty for a VP, Eng. $226,034.00/yr to $248,000.00/yr. May wrk from our HQ office in Santa Monica, CA or reside anywhere in US & wrk remotely from home. Email resume w/ Ref# REF#8253319 to hiring@gumgum.com. Must be legally auth to work in the U.S. w/o spnsrshp. EOE

CALL TODAY
AND PLACE YOUR
CLASSIFIED
office (310) 458-7737
Santa Monica Daily Press

HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
LOCATION 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401

ADVERTISE WITH US TODAY!
Santa Monica Daily Press
office (310) 458-7737

TEMPERATURE

FROM PAGE 2

The ordinance will take effect in 30 days but includes accommodations for smaller landlords. Property owners must maintain the 82-degree maximum in at least one habitable room by January 2027 and in all habitable rooms by January 2032. Enforcement against landlords begins in 2027, with a possible two-year extension for qualifying major improvements.

The rules come as Los Angeles County's unincorporated areas — including East Los Angeles, Puente Valley, Florence-Firestone and Walnut Park — have experienced rising temperatures and longer heat waves. Older buildings in the county often lack modern cooling systems, putting those residents at increased risk for heat-related illnesses.

"Setting a maximum indoor temperature of 82 degrees isn't a luxury — it's a basic right," Horvath said. "Everyone deserves to feel safe in their own home. This ordinance puts us on a path to ensure entire units are protected from extreme heat and establishes a public health standard rooted in science, equity, and care."

The measure includes specific protections for immigrant tenants, prohibiting landlords from using cooling devices as justification to raise rent, impose fees or engage in harassment. Tenants can install air conditioners, fans or blackout curtains without fear of retaliation.

Environmental and housing justice advocates strongly supported the ordinance. Representatives from Strategic Actions for a Just Economy, Sierra Club, Climate Resolve, Communities for a Better Environment and the San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps attended Tuesday's board meeting.

Jannet Torres, a climate justice organizer at SAJE and Fourth District tenant, said the policy will save lives by giving renters legal protection to install air conditioning.

"It is an important step in ensuring our most vulnerable communities can survive extreme indoor heat as the planet continues to warm," Torres said.

SAJE member Mireya, also a Fourth District tenant who withheld her last name citing immigration concerns, described the personal impact of extreme heat.

"Every summer, the heat gets worse and worse, making it hard to cook, to sleep, and even to breathe," she said. "Finally, there will be a way for me and many others to have relief and make sure we can stay healthy in our own homes when heat waves come."

The ordinance development began in November 2022 when Solis introduced a motion directing county departments to explore indoor temperature thresholds. She and Horvath worked with the departments of Public Health, Consumer and Business Affairs, the Chief Sustainability Office and County Counsel to craft the final measure.

To assist small property owners with compliance, Solis introduced a separate motion for technical and financial assistance programs. County staff will present a report within six months outlining potential funding sources, eligibility criteria and disbursement plans.

The ordinance targets unincorporated areas of the San Gabriel, San Fernando and Antelope valleys, where many face particular vulnerability as climate change intensifies heat waves across Southern California.

"This ordinance is more than a way to stay cool," Solis said. "Los Angeles County is leading the way towards a more just and equitable living conditions for Angelenos."

maaz@smdp.com

FAILING

FROM PAGE 4

Councilmember Traci Park filed a motion on July 30, 2025, instructing city departments to assess and report on evacuation route capacity in her district, the Palisades. She did so in the wake of a real evacuation that turned into a nightmare. Park's motion calls for simulations, bottleneck mitigation, alternative routes, and funding plans: all the things Santa Monica has stubbornly refused to do.

We should be grateful no disaster has yet exposed our City's unpreparedness, but relying on luck is not a substitute for responsible planning.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

Santa Monica cannot continue greenlighting large-scale development while ignoring its legal obligation to assess whether our evacuation routes have the capacity to timely evacuate residents, workers and visitors. City Council's dereliction of its duty to prioritize public safety is not just irresponsible, it borders on criminal negligence. Their decisions are compounding public safety risks by approving more buildings and greater density, including along critical transit and evacuation routes, without first conducting the legally required evacuation capacity analysis. Basic and commonsense questions - like whether our fire trucks can reach the upper floors of proposed 8-story developments, don't appear to be on their radar. The City has absolutely no idea how the population additions and the increasingly constricted transit capacity will hamper evacuation when disaster strikes.

And for those Councilmembers who relentlessly champion bike lanes while densifying the city and ignoring the fundamental reliance on automobility in Los Angeles, it's time to acknowledge a hard truth: infringing on road capacity while increasing demand on its capacity, without assessing its impact on emergency vehicle access is a safety issue, not a mobility enhancement. We must protect lives, not just promote ideology. That means taking a hard, honest look at whether our streets, infrastructure, and our capacity to timely evacuate can sustain the scale of growth the Councilmembers have done nothing to stop.

This isn't anti-housing. This is public safety first.

We all want a city that is inclusive, resilient, and thriving. But that vision means nothing if we are not here to see it.

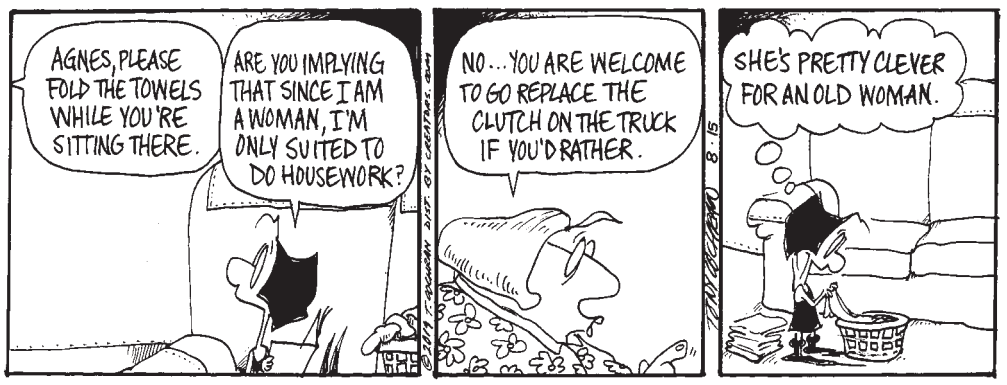
It is time for Santa Monica's leaders to stop playing politics with our safety. We demand the evacuation capacity analysis that the law requires. We demand real emergency planning. We demand to be protected, not sacrificed, for developer profit.

If you are a resident who shares these concerns, call your Councilmembers. Submit a public comment. Ask questions. Demand answers. Our lives may depend on it.

Eve Lopez, Santa Monica

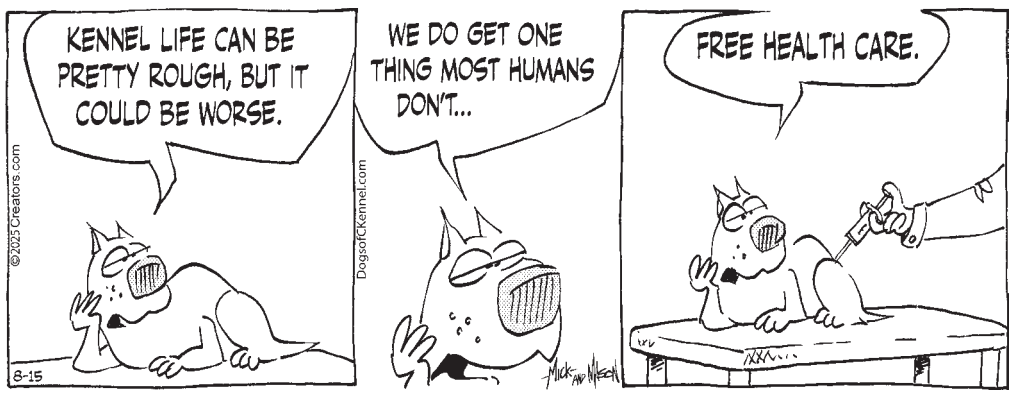
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



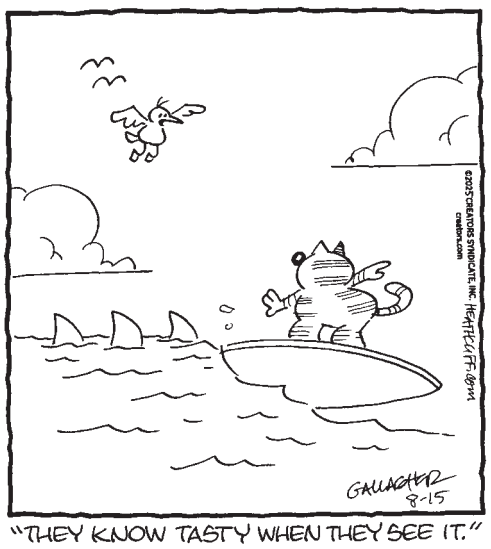
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

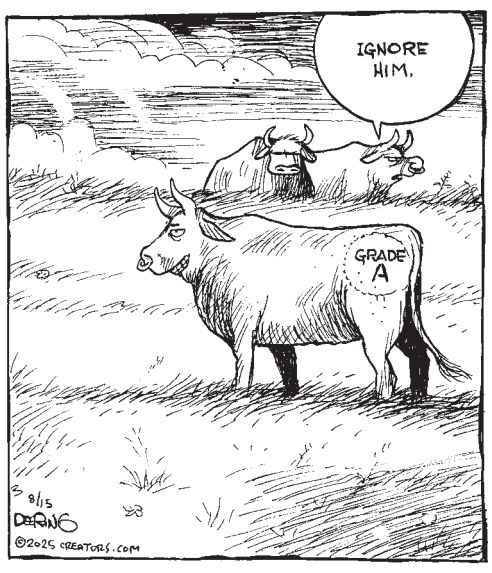
By PETER GALLAGHER



"THEY KNOW TASTY WHEN THEY SEE IT."

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 22 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 6668

Boys and girls in blue

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

Advise	Enforce	Prosecutor	Taser
Answer	Federal	Radio	Teach
Armed	Fist	Rescues	Tend
Boats	Foil	Ride	Threat
Caps	Gangs	Riot	Ticket
Court	Guns	Roads	Trains
Covert	Laws	Robber	Trial
Crime stoppers	Local	Rowdy	Trouble
	Obey	Search	Vice
Dogs	Offence	Settle	Warn
Duties	Points	Siren	
Educate	Prevent	Speed	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Feel like rocking a rhyme

Covering the city by the bay since 2001.
To advertise, email cindy@smdp.com or call 310.458.7737
smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 15)

The solar return also sets your social status on the rise, and you'll use your influence wisely. An interesting problem will turn into a quest, an invention and a financial boon. More highlights: Three key relationships fulfill on multiple levels at once. A year of thrilling events, including hot tickets for sports and entertainment. Celebrations will be as fun to dream up and plan out as they are to participate in. Libra and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 28, 1, 14 and 35.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Today centers on a to-do list filled with practical actions and items with deadlines. Whether it's tending to health, home, work or relationships, the fates favor all that's attempted in the name of harmony.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Prioritize function. The beauty of a vase does not determine how much water it holds. First, figure out what you need on a very basic and essential level. There will be many accommodating options, some of them with standout loveliness.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Seek allies, even if you don't feel like you need them. Independence is beautiful, but you're not meant to carry every single thing alone. Tap into the emotional and strategic value of teamwork, especially with diverse talents.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your ideas about what's reasonable are based on what you know. Since what you know is the experience of one out of eight billion people, it will help to get a slightly larger sampling.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You open your world just enough to see who really vibes with it. You don't require people to fully understand you to offer them your warmth and loyalty - and that generosity keeps attracting those who complement your style. Your circle grows.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Can you loosen your attachment to any single outcome? You'll know a healthy mindset from the way it encourages flexibility and emotional resilience. Cling to the ideas that reduce suffering. Repeat the thoughts that will open doors.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Maybe you're attracted to the glamour that a certain someone exudes. Make sure you get the big picture though. What's behind the shine? Decisions will be easier to make when a relationship is young. Try to figure things out early on.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're a connection-seeker, a depth-diver. And yes, sometimes that translates to over-giving. There's some mental sorting to do as you map out the landscape of how desire, generosity, self-worth and social currency intersect for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Others may be trying to fix, decide or resolve something fast - wanting closure. But don't let them rush you. Finish in your own time. Stay with the question, love the process, get cozy with the unknown. Insight comes from learning at your own pace.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Some things only reveal their usefulness in negative space. The invisible represents what you're not using, not feeding, not doing anymore - all the choices you've made to get here. Space can be potential for something or protection of sacred nothingness.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're tuned in to subtleties - tones, glances, timing. This sensitivity gives you an edge. You'll see what's in someone's heart because they tip their hand, indicating thoughts they haven't said aloud. It's a small gesture but a big win.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You give, but not to win. You share, but not to prove. You lead, but only from a place that feels like home. You'll be invited to the same rooms, but you'll choose a different seat and speak only when moved to.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

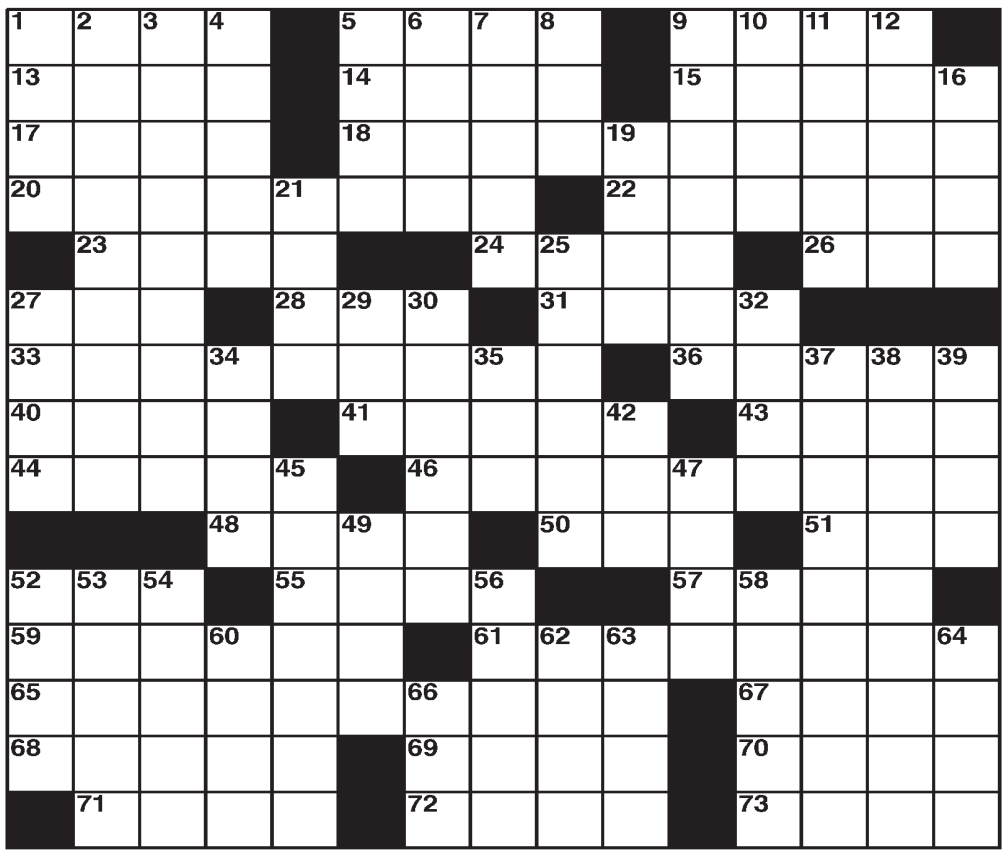
BEST PICT URES by S.N.
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Dinner table don't
5 Bldg. mgr.
9 1/2 fl. oz.
13 5-Across' apt., perhaps
14 Key, for instance
15 Midriff protrusion
17 "Beg pardon?"
18 With 65-Across, Oscar films for '44 and '32 (with Bing Crosby, Greta Garbo)
20 With 61-Across Oscar film for '62 (with Peter O'Toole)
22 Detonate
23 Follow around
24 Not in doubt
26 Get into
27 "How awful!"
28 Isn't missing
31 Mediation agcy.
33 With 46-Across, Oscar film for '37 (with Paul Muni)
36 Sounds distressed
40 Roman "well"
41 Iranian faith
43 40-day captain
44 Henry Ford II's dad
46 See 33-Across
48 Skip it
50 Dream adjunct
51 Sty dweller
52 Passing successes
55 Battery measure
57 Bullet point
59 Obliterates
61 See 20-Across
65 See 18-Across
67 No ___ land
68 Squeaky toy seller
69 It's inevitable
70 Conspire
71 TiVo alternative
72 Textile fiber
73 "And don't forget..."

DOWN

1 Mixer accessory
2 Still in its shell
3 Stirs up, as memories
4 "Father" prefix
5 Indication
6 Sports org. that added "P" to its initials
7 Is busy with
8 Partial score?
9 Clothes
10 Catch fire
11 Unexcitable
12 Mottled mount
16 Wonderful land
19 Miss
21 Grade range
25 "That's cheating!"
27 "How can __?"
29 Fliers' HQ
30 Sushi staple
32 Auto engine pioneer
34 Gargoyle look
35 Current measure
37 It's chased on a court
38 Golden rides
39 *Pygmalion* penner
42 Project conclusion
45 Fond farewell
47 Mideast leader
49 Swanky
52 Forecast stat
53 Hot-air machine
54 Handled
56 Final tally
58 Florida's "Big Guava"
60 Plunder
62 Salad cheese
63 Patterson sleuth
64 Regarding
66 Not around today



CREATORS SYNDICATE ©2025 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM

08/15/25

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

HEROES

FROM PAGE 1

lifeguard and an exhausted swimmer. He said that equipped with his rescue buoy and flippers, Howard battled through massive waves to reach the lifeguard, supplied him with the buoy, and together they brought the swimmer safely to shore.

"His intervention undoubtedly saved at least one life that day," Hill said.

SMFD said that the rescue has prompted the fire department to begin developing its first-ever rescue swimmer program.

Howard expressed humility upon receiving the award, saying he was "quite overwhelmed" and believed "it could have been any one of our members" because the department is "very capable, very good."

The awards ceremony highlighted the department's commitment to recognizing both sworn personnel and community members who demonstrate exceptional service

The ceremony recognized several civilian heroes, including 8-year-old Alana Cohan, who received a Certificate of Appreciation for her actions during a medical emergency on April 29. The young girl called 911 and provided critical information to dispatchers, including the address, nature of the emergency, medical history and medications needed.

"At just 8 years old, you called 911 and provided life-saving information to dispatchers," Hill read from Cohan's citation. On scene, she "further supported responders by helping contact your mother, assisting with notifications, and ensuring the safety of pets."

Hill praised Cohan's "maturity and calm actions," saying they "made a significant difference and were deeply appreciated by all involved."

Dr. Joanne Elmore and Peter Kim were also recognized for their life-saving response to a sudden cardiac arrest at John Adams Middle School on May 11. Dr. Elmore immediately began CPR while Kim brought an automated external defibrillator to the scene and delivered one shock. The patient regained consciousness before fire department personnel arrived.

"By the time the fire department arrived, the patient had regained consciousness, which is something that medically speaking is nothing short of incredible," Hill said.

He described the incident as a true team effort involving "bystanders jumping into action, an on-site physician lending medical expertise, police officers and dispatchers coordinating, and responders doing what they do best, which is saving lives."

Hill said it was important to recognize the professional and amateur heroes in the community for their lifesaving efforts.

"Tonight we have the privilege of recognizing some truly special individuals in our community, people who have gone above and beyond in moments that have mattered the most," Hill said.

Mayor Negrete, speaking on behalf of the City Council, expressed pride in having "all of the heroes in this room, both sworn and civilian."

"This particular award is a true honor, and it's really an honor for us to witness you receiving it in front of your family," Negrete told Howard. "Thank you for making sure that we were part of this process and allowing the community to see the heroes that we have amongst us."

Hill oversees the awards program as part of his duties with the C platoon.

maaz@smdp.com

NATIVE

FROM PAGE 6

perspective, dams are about the worst thing you can do to them. From a state's perspective, the endangered species act is about the worst thing you can do to rivers.

Before getting too wrapped around the axle, don't forget we consume about 50 percent of the Colorado River flow just to grow hay. In the West, whoever got there first and diverted water from the river for a "beneficial use" gets the water. First it was mining, today it's hay fields. The easiest way to prove "beneficial use" was (and is) to dig a ditch across rocky soil and flood a field to grow hay, which is among the thirstiest crops on earth. It takes about 24 inches of water to grow it in the Mile High State, and over 60 inches of water to grow it at the Mexican border.

As it gets hotter, crops need more water. It has not gone unnoticed in these highly political times that we sure do ship a lot of hay grown in the Colorado River Basin overseas, largely to China, Japan and Saudi Arabia.

We might also notice that in hard times, things get much, much worse for Indian "wet water." Of the four million acre-feet that can be claimed by Indian Tribes, the Arizona tribes are entitled to just over half. Much of the "wet water" they now receive comes through what's called the Central Arizona Project (CAP), a 1968 Congressional bill to divert up to 1.5 million acre-feet of Colorado River water 2,900 feet uphill to serve Phoenix and Tucson.

That bill came with an allotment cost—in times of shortage, Arizona's CAP water is cut off first, meaning before California loses its share. That means the Arizona Tribes would be the first to suffer the shortfall, just the latest shot in our nation's Indian wars.

Building infrastructure to get pipes to Indian Reservations so they can grow more hay is one solution. However, that's much like installing telephone poles instead of cell phone towers to deliver phone service. Paying tribes to lease water to cities, or to leave it in the river to re-water the lower Colorado River Delta, are other approaches. Granted, the Native American water rights will be just one issue, but the 2026 Negotiations will govern Colorado River usage over the next 20 years starting October 1, 2026.

This process is really a generational opportunity to make better use of the Colorado River, a national treasure and still the lifeblood of civilizations built here millennia before newcomers began allocating resources. It's also a chance to address a century of brutal procrastination on Indian Water Rights, or we can just revert to the existing policy: Next question, please!

About the author: For more than two decades, Ken Ransford has served on the Colorado Basin Roundtable, a volunteer advisory group formed by the state to help develop Colorado's Water Plan. The Basalt, Colorado-area resident grew up in Pacific Palisades and is also a practicing attorney and CPA, however, he notes that he is not a water-law legal specialist.

COUNTY BEACHES

FROM PAGE 1

whose district includes three of the targeted beaches. "SCOUP helps the County address this challenge with cost-effective, nature-based solutions."

The program targets five beaches: Zuma Beach in Malibu, Will Rogers State Beach in Pacific Palisades, Dockweiler State Beach in Playa del Rey, Manhattan Beach and Redondo Beach. These sites were selected based on erosion risk, threats to public infrastructure and their popularity among diverse communities.

According to the County, climate change has accelerated coastal erosion along the Los Angeles County shoreline through higher sea levels and stronger storms that wash away sand faster than natural processes can replace it. The problem is compounded by human-made barriers like dams that block sediment flow and sea walls that alter wave patterns.

"When we act urgently, we make sure our coast remains open to everyone for years to come," said Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, who represents Malibu. "Los Angeles County is leading the way to protect our coastline using innovative strategies that address multiple challenges at once."

Under SCOUP, beach-quality sand left over from development projects, harbor dredging and flood control maintenance can be used to restore beaches that officials said serve as critical buffers protecting roads, buildings and public spaces from ocean surge.

The program still requires approval from several regulatory agencies, including the California Coastal Commission for a coastal development permit, the California State Lands Commission, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Gary Jones, director of the Department of Beaches and Harbors, called the approval "a sustainable, natural way to protect our beaches—not just for future generations, but for the communities who depend on them today."

Officials said the project is needed because as beaches shrink due to accelerated erosion, the natural barriers that protect valuable public infrastructure become less effective. Sea walls built to protect beachfront properties can actually worsen erosion by changing how waves interact with the shore.

In approving the program, the County said it aligns with existing environmental goals while streamlining efforts to preserve the beaches as both an economic and cultural resource.

County officials emphasized that the targeted beaches serve diverse communities and that preserving coastal access remains a priority.

More information about the county's coastal resilience efforts and community engagement opportunities is available at beaches.lacounty.gov/coastal-resilience.

maaz@smdp.com

ALERT SYSTEMS

FROM PAGE 1

CONSIDERATION

City officials are examining several backup systems, each with significant trade-offs in cost, coverage, and control.

The leading candidate is FM Alert, a radio-based system that would cost $950,000 for a five-year license, plus $75,000 annually in maintenance after the initial period. The system uses existing FM radio infrastructure and offers receivers costing approximately $139 each that can include bed shakers for hearing-impaired residents.

"They are happy with how the system works, it does work" said Public Safety Director Susan Dueñas about communities already using FM Alert. However, she noted maintenance challenges, including periodic reprogramming requirements and equipment failures.

Hans Lutz, a local ham radio operator, is currently field-testing FM Alert receivers throughout Malibu's canyons and beaches. "It works better than I expected," Lutz told the council, though he emphasized the need for authorization to conduct full alert tests before recommending the system.

ALTERNATIVE SYSTEMS PRESENT CHALLENGES

Tone Alert Radios offer another indoor warning option, with receivers costing $300-$450 each. While the city would maintain control over alerts, the system requires expensive infrastructure installation unless existing radio equipment can be repurposed.

Officials are exploring whether the city's existing CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) radio system could support tone alerts, potentially reducing costs.

Traditional outdoor sirens remain under consideration, with the city planning to borrow two mobile units from Los Angeles for public demonstration this fall. However, a 2020 feasibility study warned that sirens are "primarily meant for an outdoor warning system" with no guarantee residents would hear them indoors.

NOAA Weather Radios were largely dismissed after county officials declined to activate the system during the Palisades Fire. "If Palisades didn't trigger it, I'm not sure what would," Dueñas said, noting the county only uses the system for countywide emergencies.

FUNDING AND TIMELINE CONCERNS

The city is working with FEMA and California's Office of Emergency Services to identify potential funding sources for the expensive systems.

Payment terms for FM Alert would require a 40% down payment upon signing, with additional payments as broadcast stations come online over an estimated three-to-five month installation period.

Council members emphasized the need for redundant systems rather than seeking a single perfect solution.

"I would recommend that we do as many as we can because redundancy is the key in emergencies," said Dueñas. "You can't have just one system, as we already know, because it's not always going to work."

IMMEDIATE NEXT STEPS

The council directed staff to accelerate testing of various systems and report results directly to elected officials rather than waiting for Public Safety Commission review, citing the urgency of fire season.

Mobile siren demonstrations are expected this fall, while FM Alert testing continues. Officials emphasized that any implemented system would require extensive public education to ensure residents understand alert meanings and appropriate responses.

The push for backup alert systems reflects a broader challenge facing California communities as climate change intensifies wildfire risks while utilities implement preemptive power shutoffs during dangerous weather conditions.

maaz@smdp.com

Pacific Ballet Theatre

ELI BROAD STAGE

August 24 5:30 pm

Middleton's Carmen is both thrilling and breathtaking."
Hollywood Times



Carmen

A Gypsy Tale told through
Ballet~Flamenco and Latin Dance

Tickets @ Eventbrite and PBDTLA.org

Promo Code: CARMEN for 20% Off