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2 **Trump**
Government Shutdown.

3 **New Law**
Restricts HOA Fines.

4 **Homelessness**
Encampment Next Door.

5 **Pier**
Arcade Marks 71 Years.

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What a government shutdown means for Californians, from Social Security to national parks

Editor's Note: Santa Monica officials released a statement this week saying the city does not anticipate any disruptions to Santa Monica services or programs as a result of the current federal government shutdown. In anticipation of the potential shutdown, city teams have worked over the past week to ensure any federally-funded programs, such as housing vouchers, can continue without significant impacts to residents.

John Lauretig remembers the filthy bathrooms, the overflowing trash cans and the community of people who rallied to clean up Joshua Tree National Park the last time the U.S. Government shut down.

For more than a month from December 2018 through January 2019, thousands of National Park Service employees were furloughed nationwide — but the Trump administration kept many national parks open.

Unsupervised, visitors drove through wilderness and historic sites, camped where they weren't supposed to, and vandalized plants and buildings at parks across California. The trash — and the feces — piled up. In the days after the shutdown ended, park staff found at least 1,665 clumps of toilet paper littering Death Valley alone, where an estimated half-ton of human waste had been left outside the restrooms.

"It was insane to leave the gates open and tell the staff not to show up in the park — for our public lands, and all of our special places in this country, to be unprotected," said Lauretig, a retired law enforcement park ranger and president of the Friends of Joshua Tree nonprofit.

Now, facing the prospect of another imminent shutdown, conservation groups and retired park service employees including Lauretig are calling to keep the gates locked at national parks and historic landmarks.

They're among many Californians bracing for the shutdown, which began today after Democrats and Republicans failed to make a deal to prevent it.

As of now, the parties appear far apart on reopening the government. Democratic leaders in Congress are demanding that Republicans reverse Medicaid cuts made in Trump's signature tax and spending bill earlier this year and extend Biden-era subsidies used by a majority of Affordable Care Act enrollees.

SEE **PARKS** PAGE 15



Matthew Hall

PARKS: Joshua Tree national park remains open but with reduced services

Santa Monica expands pilot program to move affordable housing away from approved developments

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

The Santa Monica City Council voted 5-1 Tuesday to expand a new housing program that allows developers to build affordable units off-site or pay fees instead, despite criticism that it lets builders 'buy their way out' of inclusion requirements.

The Off-site Affordable Housing Pilot Program, launched in August with a 1,000-unit cap, filled up within five days as six applications totaling 1,018 units flooded in. The council's decision removes that cap and applies the program to all currently entitled projects — potentially affecting about 3,000 additional housing units.

The program aims to unlock stalled housing developments by giving developers three options

SEE **HOUSING** PAGE 5

Malibu City Council extends Franklin Fire emergency declaration amid debris crisis

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

The Malibu City Council unanimously voted Monday to extend the emergency declaration for the Franklin Fire, citing ongoing debris cleanup challenges and a severe sediment buildup crisis threatening properties along Malibu Creek.

The council adopted Resolution No. 25-46, marking the sixth extension of the emergency declaration since the fire began Dec. 9, 2024, in the Santa Monica Mountains on Malibu Canyon Road. The declaration must

SEE **DECLARATION** PAGE 7

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PHIL DASSISE

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IN LOVING MEMORY



Phil passed away in New Orleans from complications of West Nile virus. He had been hospitalized for one month. His brother and daughter were by his side during his last days.

Phil lived in New Orleans for many years and enjoyed the warm weather and lifestyle. He grew up in Santa Monica after his family immigrated from France and briefly lived in Chicago. He attended Franklin Elementary, John Adams Junior High, Samohi, SMC and El Camino College where he played on the men's state finalist soccer team in 1986. He loved soccer and played semi-pro in France and with Santa Monica teams, Real Santa Monica and Autobahn Soccer Club.

He was a limousine driver in Los Angeles and shared numerous stories of driving and meeting celebrities and attending the Academy Awards and Emmy Awards. He also lived in Venice, California and Kansas City, Missouri and traveled to France and England for vacations with his family.

Phil was fun loving and once hosted a memorable high school party in the Sunset Park neighborhood. He also loved music and was involved with local bands in his high school and college days.

Phil was loved by his family and is survived by his daughter, brother, nephews and parents.

Trump uses government shutdown to dole out firings and political punishment

President Donald Trump has seized on the government shutdown as an opportunity to reshape the federal workforce and punish detractors, meeting with budget director Russ Vought on Thursday to talk through "temporary or permanent" spending cuts that could set up a lose-lose dynamic for Democratic lawmakers.

Trump announced the meeting on social media Thursday morning, saying he and Vought would determine "which of the many Democrat Agencies" would be cut — continuing their efforts to slash federal spending by threatening mass firings of workers and suggesting "irreversible" cuts to Democratic priorities.

"I can't believe the Radical Left Democrats gave me this unprecedented opportunity," Trump wrote on his social media account. "They are not stupid people, so maybe this is their way of wanting to, quietly and quickly, MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN!"

Trump has been very direct about his intentions in saying that he believes the Democrats would get the blame if he chooses to fire people or cut spending as part of the shutdown.

"There could be firings and that's their fault," the president said in an interview with One America News set to air Thursday. "I mean, we could cut projects that they wanted, favorite projects, and they'd be permanently cut."

The Truth Social post was notable in its explicit embrace of Project 2025, a controversial policy blueprint drafted by the Heritage Foundation that Trump distanced himself from during his reelection campaign. The effort aimed to reshape the federal government around right-wing policies, and Democrats repeatedly pointed to its goals to warn of the consequences of a second Trump administration.

Vought on Wednesday offered an opening salvo of the pressure he hoped to put on Democrats. He announced he was withholding $18 billion for the Hudson River rail tunnel and Second Avenue subway line in New York City that have been championed by both Democratic leaders, Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer and House Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries, in their home state. Vought is also canceling $8 billion in green energy projects in states with Democratic senators.

"Trump's so-called 'maximum pain' plan isn't hurting Democrats — it's hurting American families," Schumer said in a statement Thursday. "He's snatching paychecks, threatening jobs, and deliberately inflicting suffering on working people just to score petty political points."

Meanwhile, the White House is preparing for mass firings of federal workers, rather than simply furloughing it as is the usual practice during a shutdown. White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt said earlier this week that layoffs were "imminent."

"If they don't want further harm on their constituents back home, then they need to reopen the government," Leavitt said Thursday said of Democrats.

A STARRING ROLE FOR RUSS VOUGHT

The bespectacled and bearded Vought has emerged as a central figure in the shutdown — promising possible layoffs of government workers that would be a show of strength by the Trump administration as well as a possible liability given the weakening job market and existing voter unhappiness over the economy.

The strategic goal is to increase the political pressure on Democratic lawmakers as agencies tasked with environmental protection, racial equity and addressing poverty, among other things, could be gutted over the course of the shutdown.

But Democratic lawmakers also see Vought as the architect of a strategy to refuse to spend congressionally approved funds, using a tool known as a "pocket rescission" in which the administration submits plans to return unspent money to Congress just before the end of the fiscal year, causing that money to lapse.

All of this means that Democratic spending priorities might be in jeopardy regardless of whether they want to keep the government open or partially closed.

Ahead of the end of the fiscal year in September, Vought used the pocket rescission to block the spending of $4.9 billion in foreign aid.

SEE **SHUTDOWN** PAGE 12

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New California law restricts HOA fines to $100 per violation, giving homeowners a break



Adriana Heldiz, CalMatters

FINE: Adam Hardesty's home in Carlsbad on Feb. 19, 2025. Hardesty faced opposition from his homeowners association when he sought to convert his three-story condo into a ground-floor apartment. California HOA fines are capped at $100 per violation under a new law.

An ornate balcony or quirky garage door might be in reach for more Californians as homeowners associations across the state are being forced to govern without the power of exorbitant fees to enforce regulations.

Millions of California residents could get a break if they violate their homeowners association rules due to a new law that caps fines at $100, down from hundreds to thousands of dollars. Amid an affordability crisis, lawmakers and groups that represent homeowners have characterized the cap, which took effect July 1, as protecting the pocketbooks of middle- and low-income residents. However, HOA boards worry the new restriction will limit their authority to enforce rules.

Attorneys for homeowners and HOAs say it will get rid of extreme cases where board members impose unfair and egregious fines to retaliate against homeowners they dislike.

"I have seen the worst of the worst and HOAs fine thousands of dollars and foreclose on those homes," said Edward Susolik, CEO and president of Callahan & Blaine, who represents both homeowners and HOAs. "Generally speaking, that seems reasonable to bring that down because that is one of the biggest issues living in California, because HOAs have very broad powers to enforce their rules."

The cap on HOA fines was quietly inserted into unrelated major housing reform legislation, Assembly Bill 130, that exempts most new housing from environmental review and was led by Democratic Sen. Scott Wiener of San Francisco. The language of a separate bill by Democratic Sen. Aisha Wahab of Fremont, Senate Bill 681, capping the HOA fee was included in the housing reform bill just days before the governor signed it into law, drawing little attention.

"We were in active negotiations with Sen. Wahab's staff and actually provided amendments to the pro tem's office as well. What we were promoting was greater transparency and notice when fines take place at associations and avoiding a cap at all," said Louis Brown, an attorney who represents HOAs with the Community Associations Institute. "We were very surprised when the language showed up in AB 130."

Sen. Wiener's office did not respond to an email requesting comment.

HOAS ARE PROLIFERATING NATIONWIDE

HOAs are a nearly inescapable reality for home buyers. Their rise continues to skyrocket as 67% of all new single-family homes built in 2024 nationwide were in communities with HOAs, according to data from the U.S. Census Bureau, up from 46% in 2009. In California, more than 50,000 HOAs govern around 65% of the state's homeowners, according to the California Association of Homeowners Associations. California residents paid a median of $278 in monthly fees –– among the steepest in the nation, according to data from the Census Bureau.

They create and enforce rules for home, apartment and condominium owners and are controlled by the residents themselves, who elect and can recall board members. HOAs have faced the ire and frustration of some Californians for decades, and lawmakers have proposed legislation seeking more transparency on governing boards.

Most neighborhood disputes are resolved through casual conversation and end cordially without a fine needing to be imposed, according to David Zepponi, chief executive of the Executive Council of Homeowners and a lobbyist for HOA boards. In cases

SEE **HOA** PAGE 12



Weather

Friday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 69.
Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 59. West wind 5 to 15 mph becoming northeast after midnight.
Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 71. Light and variable wind becoming west southwest 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 59.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2025/10/03	Fri	01:33 AM	0.09	L
2025/10/03	Fri	08:04 AM	4.52	H
2025/10/03	Fri	1:23 PM	2.05	L
2025/10/03	Fri	7:20 PM	5.49	H
2025/10/04	Sat	02:02 AM	-0.01	L
2025/10/04	Sat	08:22 AM	4.97	H
2025/10/04	Sat	2:03 PM	1.37	L
2025/10/04	Sat	8:04 PM	5.65	H
2025/10/05	Sun	02:30 AM	0.04	L
2025/10/05	Sun	08:45 AM	5.46	H
2025/10/05	Sun	2:44 PM	0.69	L
2025/10/05	Sun	8:48 PM	5.62	H
2025/10/06	Mon	02:58 AM	0.25	L
2025/10/06	Mon	09:10 AM	5.94	H
2025/10/06	Mon	3:27 PM	0.10	L
2025/10/06	Mon	9:33 PM	5.40	H
2025/10/07	Tue	03:28 AM	0.60	L
2025/10/07	Tue	09:39 AM	6.34	H
2025/10/07	Tue	4:12 PM	-0.34	L
2025/10/07	Tue	10:22 PM	5.00	H
2025/10/08	Wed	03:58 AM	1.05	L
2025/10/08	Wed	10:12 AM	6.59	H
2025/10/08	Wed	5:02 PM	-0.57	L
2025/10/08	Wed	11:15 PM	4.48	H
2025/10/09	Thu	04:30 AM	1.57	L
2025/10/09	Thu	10:49 AM	6.63	H
2025/10/09	Thu	5:57 PM	-0.57	L
2025/10/10	Fri	12:19 AM	3.92	H
2025/10/10	Fri	05:04 AM	2.11	L
2025/10/10	Fri	11:31 AM	6.45	H
2025/10/10	Fri	6:59 PM	-0.38	L
2025/10/11	Sat	01:40 AM	3.47	H
2025/10/11	Sat	05:42 AM	2.63	L
2025/10/11	Sat	12:22 PM	6.08	H

Daily Lottery

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

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 10/1
8 17 22 28 55
Power#: 14
Jackpot: 195 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 9/30
4 8 27 37 63
Mega#: 14
Jackpot: 520 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 10/1
4 12 19 32 46
Mega#: 24
Jackpot: 48 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 10/1
3 6 7 37 38

Daily 3
Draw Date: 10/1
EVENING: 2 4 3
Draw Date: 10/1
MIDDAY: 0 3 6

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 10/1
1st: 08 - Gorgeous George
2nd: 12 - Lucky Charms
3rd: 11 - Money Bags
Race Time: 1:40.92

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Santa Monica Daily Press

GET IT DAILY...

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

SANTA MONICA
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
SANTA MONICA CITY HALL

DATE/TIME: Monday, October 6, 2025, 7:00 PM

LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Room 250

PUBLIC HEARING:
1437 Lincoln Boulevard (25ARB-0135): Multi-Family Residential
To review the design, colors, materials, landscape plans and sign program for the construction of an eight-story, 85-foot tall, 76,896 square foot residential housing project consisting of 90 units (80 market rate units; 10 affordable units), above three levels of subterranean parking in the Lincoln Transition East Zoning District of the Downtown Community Plan (DCP-LT). *Continued with comments on July 21, 2025.*

2901 Santa Monica Boulevard (25ARB-0134): Multi-Family Residential
To review the design, colors, materials and landscape plans for the construction of an eight-story, 85-foot tall, 98,189 square foot residential housing project consisting of 129 units (116 market rate units; 13 affordable units) above three levels of subterranean parking in the Mixed-Use Boulevard Low (MUBL) Zoning District. *Continued with comments on July 21, 2025.*

1399 Olympic Boulevard (25ARB-0189): Mixed-Use/Multi-Family Residential
To review the design, colors and materials for the construction of an eight-story, 81-foot tall, 192,381 square foot mixed-use housing project consisting of 222 residential units (197 market rate units; 25 affordable units), and 9,982 square feet of commercial floor area above two levels of subterranean parking in the Mixed-Use Boulevard Low (MUBL) Zoning District.

More information is available online at https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Architectural-Review-Board/ (en Espanol tambien at (310) 458-2201 ext. 2431#).

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Those wishing to give written public comment shall email comments to planningcomment@santamonica.gov. Comments received **prior to 12 p.m.** on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Architectural Review Board prior to the meeting and posted online. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

For disability-related accommodations, please contact (866) 311-7266 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation.

All written materials are available in alternate languages provided the request is received 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

TRANSLATION SERVICE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST. Please contact planning@santamonica.gov at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

SERVICIO DE TRADUCCIÓN DISPONIBLE A PEDIDO. Comuníquese al planning@santamonica.gov al menos 72 horas antes de la reunión programada.

ESPAÑOL : Esto es una noticia pública para revisar aplicaciones 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

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

For many Californians, reducing homelessness comes down to the encampment next door

This is both an admission and an observation: The ramifications of homelessness, for most people, are anecdotal.

Statistics don't do much to convince people of the seriousness of the problem or persuade them much that it's getting better or worse. What matters is how it brushes up against them directly.

I was reminded of this last week, when I passed an encampment that is a part of my everyday life in Los Angeles, an unsightly and vaguely threatening bundle of tents and trash beneath the 101 freeway, not far from my son's Silver Lake apartment. When Mayor Karen Bass took office in 2022 with a promise to make reducing homelessness her central mission, I told myself I'd believe it when that encampment came down.

Nearly three years later, it finally has. At least for now.

I was leaving the area last Wednesday morning, when I discovered the onramp to the freeway was closed, fenced off while crews poured through the little strip of land beneath the freeway and bagged up boxes, shopping carts and the flotsam that gathers in and around these sad communities.

By the next day, the tents were gone. Mountains of trash were piled a hundred feet from where the encampment once encroached on the road along the underpass. A few of the former residents of the tents were picking through the debris, searching for lost items.

But most had moved along. The neighborhood felt different.

And that's a bitter truth about street homelessness and what it does to communities. It's not fair to demonize poverty, to blame people for their illnesses or addictions, but it's hard to live near these encampments.

A NEIGHBORHOOD WITH AND WITHOUT TENT DWELLERS

Driving through the area often means snaking through addled men and women wandering into traffic. Some beg for change, sometimes aggressively. Others wander, muttering to themselves and teetering on the edge of eruption.

The neighbors complain of stolen mail and uncomfortable interactions. The streets are dirty and strewn with trash. Human feces dries in the hot sun.

This is not a high-crime neighborhood by most standards, but it's made grimmer and grittier by the presence of this knot of tents and their inhabitants. That creates a kind of compassion fatigue.

It can be easy to forget that these people are suffering and that their plight should trigger our sympathy — not our revulsion or fear. But that's a difficult feeling to hold on to when your mail is stolen, the sidewalk is blocked or a wild-eyed man approaches you on the street, sputtering with incoherent rage.

With the encampment suddenly gone, life in the surrounding neighborhood felt lighter, easier. On Sunday, I dropped in at the Target a block or so from where the encampment had been. The security guard at the entrance noted that the store and neighborhood were "calmer this week." The store, which locks up many items behind plexiglass barriers, had a smattering of customers shopping for groceries and home supplies.

On the next block, the local liquor and convenience store was quietly busy as well, and the clerk there was relieved at the relative serenity in the area.

The homeless people who congregated outside the store affected business, he said. The place relies on foot traffic. When sidewalks are impassable or clogged, customers shy away. This morning, a few patrons formed a line, picking up cold drinks and snacks.

It's risky to make political judgments based on personal experience, but homelessness encourages it. It matters far less to most people that the mayor can point to data showing progress when their daily lives are impacted.

So yes, Bass can rightly say that street homelessness has declined in back-to-back years, even as some cities have seen an increase. She is right to express pride in a 17.5% decline in the number of people living on Los Angeles streets. Those results, as she noted in July, are more than just data points.

"They represent thousands of human beings who are now inside, and neighborhoods that are beginning to heal," she said at the time.

WHEN HOMELESSNESS FEELS WORSE THAN IT IS

She's right, and it should hearten those who care about unhoused people and the impact homelessness has on the broader city. But until people feel those gains directly, until they sense that healing for themselves, it can be hard to internalize.

In that way, homelessness is different from some of the other pressing issues of our day. For instance, it can be hard to gauge the full scale of inflation or unemployment. It's hard to know whether a person's experience is typical, and so many voters rely on what their leaders say about data.

That's why it's easy for President Trump to lie about the data, to announce glibly

SEE **GUEST COMMENTARY** PAGE 12

Family-owned arcade marks 71 years on Santa Monica Pier



Santa Monica Pier Restoration Corporation

PIER: Playland Arcade on the Santa Monica Pier Exterior View 1985.

MAAZ ALIN
SMDP Staff Writer

Seventy-one years after opening its doors, Playland Arcade continues to light up the Santa Monica Pier as one of Southern California's last authentic boardwalk arcades and the pier's longest-running family-owned business.

The arcade will celebrate its anniversary throughout October with giveaways, a nostalgic display of vintage memorabilia and participation in the pier's Locals' Night on Oct. 16. A private anniversary event is scheduled for Oct. 18, bringing together city officials, pier partners and family friends.

"Our father, uncle and grandfather built Playland with a simple mission—to make people smile," said Marlene Gordon, daughter of founder George Gordon. "Seventy-one years later, seeing families still laugh and play here means the world to us. We've watched our children and now grandchildren grow up among the games and memories."

Founded in 1954 by brothers George and Eugene Gordon along with their father Morris "Pops" Gordon, the arcade began as a dream to bring joy to the beachfront. The Gordon brothers initially operated a traveling route of coin-operated games and kiddie rides across Los Angeles before finding their permanent home on the Santa Monica Pier through family friend Mrs. Enid Newcomb, who held the pier's lease and envisioned creating a family-friendly amusement area.

Today, the arcade operates under fourth-generation family ownership, led by Marlene and Joanie Gordon, daughters of George Gordon, and their nieces Dana Picore and Monique Giroux, daughters of the late Barbara Gordon. The business is now certified as women-owned by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council, reflecting its current matriarchal leadership.

"Playland isn't just a business—it's our family story," said Joanie Gordon, also a daughter of founder George Gordon. "It's a joy to see the arcade continue to evolve while staying true to its roots."

The Gordon children literally grew up in the arcade, spending weekends helping with tickets and games. After Eugene's unexpected death in 1971, George's daughters stepped in to help their father run the business, ensuring it remained in family hands. Nearly every Gordon family member across four generations has worked at the arcade, creating what the family describes as a deeply personal legacy of continuity.

The Gordon family recently completed an extensive renovation in 2025, updating the interior with new lighting and décor while preserving the whimsical atmosphere that has attracted generations of visitors. The arcade houses 160-200 games spanning every era, from classic Skee-Ball and vintage pinball to modern virtual reality simulators and interactive video games.

In its early days, Playland operated not only coin-operated games but also novelty attractions including an archery range with real arrows and a rifle target shooting gallery, reflecting the bygone era of boardwalk entertainment. The arcade has continuously evolved, embracing video arcade machines in the 1980s and expanding its array of prize-redemption and skill games in the 1990s and 2000s.

Playland Arcade has weathered significant challenges throughout its history. In the 1970s, when the pier faced potential demolition by city planners proposing a private island resort, the Gordon family helped lead the "Save Our Pier" movement alongside local advocates and actor Robert Redford, a Santa Monica native who had filmed scenes for "The Sting" on the pier.

"Thanks in part to these efforts, the pier survived as 'a pier for everybody,' and Playland endured as a beloved gathering spot," the family noted in historical accounts.

During the early 1990s, the original aging building was completely rebuilt as part of a major pier restoration project. Remarkably,

SEE **ARCADE** PAGE 12

HOUSING

FROM PAGE 1

instead of building affordable units on-site: construct affordable housing elsewhere within four years, rehabilitate existing units, or pay in-lieu fees to the city's Housing Trust Fund.

"We only have certain levers in our control over these major macro forces that are making it really, really hard to build the housing that we need," said Councilmember Jesse Zwick, defending the program's necessity given current economic headwinds, including high interest rates and construction costs.

Mayor Lana Negrete cast the lone dissenting vote, arguing the expansion promotes segregation by separating affordable housing from market-rate developments.

"We're literally right now handing out a way for someone to buy their way out of inclusion," Mayor Negrete said during the meeting. "Somebody's got to say it, and I'm here to say it."

The pilot's early results show five projects chose to build affordable housing off-site, while one elected to pay approximately $2.2 million in fees rather than construct nine affordable units. In total, the initial applications would produce 93 affordable units off-site and generate substantial fees for the city's Housing Trust Fund.

COMPROMISE ADDS SAFEGUARDS

Mayor Pro Tem Caroline Torosis proposed a compromise motion that significantly strengthened accountability measures while maintaining the program's feasibility for developers. The changes apply only to new applications beyond the original 1,000 units.

Key modifications include increasing the gap financing requirement from $150,000 to $160,000 per unit, tied to annual construction cost reviews. The council also added binding delivery milestones requiring developers to submit complete entitlement applications before pulling building permits and complete permit applications before receiving certificates of occupancy.

Perhaps most significantly, all participating projects must now commit to paying the city's Measure GS transfer tax — or its equivalent if the law changes — upon sale, ensuring the community receives revenue from every project.

"We're not trying to give a blank check. We're not trying to give a giveaway," Torosis said. "We're trying to get units for Santa Monicans to live in that are affordable and habitable."

SHARP PUBLIC DIVIDE

The proposal drew a slew of public comments reflecting deep divisions over housing policy. Supporters argued the program represents the only viable path forward given economic realities that have essentially frozen housing construction.

"This program has been an early success with more than 1,000 units applying to use it," wrote Connor Webb of Santa Monica Forward, urging the council to "build on that momentum."

Critics flooded the council with opposition emails, arguing the program incentivizes luxury housing construction while providing inadequate affordable housing. Many cited concerns that the in-lieu fees are far below actual construction costs, leaving taxpayers to cover the difference.

Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights submitted an extensive analysis arguing for stronger delivery milestones and higher fees, while warning that the program exposes the city to substantial financial risks.

HOUSING CRISIS CONTEXT

The program emerged from Santa Monica's struggle to meet state-mandated housing production goals. The city issued just 37 building permits for new homes in 2024, far below targets set in its housing element.

Councilmembers acknowledged the policy represents an imperfect solution to competing pressures: the need to spur housing construction amid difficult economic conditions while ensuring developers fulfill affordable housing commitments.

"In any collaborative process, there are trade-offs," said Councilmember Ellis Raskin, who supported the compromise despite reservations about some provisions.

The council directed staff to return with implementation details and monitoring mechanisms to track the program's success. Council member Barry Snell recused himself due to a potential conflict of interest.

maaz@smdp.com

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS TO THE

Transient Occupancy Tax Advisory Committee

UNSCHEDULED VACANCY

TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
One seat available for a term ending **June 30, 2027**
Applicant must be a Santa Monica resident.

Applications due by noon, November 11, 2025.
Appointments to be made by City Council, **November 18, 2025.**

No Santa Monica City Employee may serve as a member of any Board or Commission.

The State Political Reform Act requires certain officeholders to disclose their interest and income which may be materially affected by their official action. The applicants appointed to serve in these positions will be required to file a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) upon assuming office, and annually thereafter.

Applications are available on-line at: www.smgov.net/boards
All current applications on file will be considered.

Disability related assistance and alternate formats of this document are available upon request by calling (310) 458-8211.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Mid-City

Police Seek Suspect in Assault of Elderly Security Guard

Santa Monica police are asking for the public's help in identifying a suspect who assaulted an elderly security guard and stole his flashlight in late August.

The attack occurred at approximately 2:50 a.m. on August 30 in the 600 block of Wilshire Boulevard. Police said the suspect struck the victim with the victim's own flashlight, causing injury, before fleeing with the weapon.

The suspect is described as a Black male, 25 to 30 years old, standing 5 feet 5 inches to 5 feet 7 inches tall with a thin build and short curly hair. He was wearing a black shirt with a bear design on the back, black pants and red and black Nike shoes. Police said he was carrying a green backpack at the time of the incident.

Anyone with information that may assist in identifying or locating the suspect is urged to contact the Santa Monica Police Department at (310) 458-8939.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



SMPD Facebook

CRIME: The suspect is described as a Black male, 25 to 30 years old, standing 5 feet 5 inches to 5 feet 7 inches tall with a thin build and short curly hair.

To learn how to feature your upcoming event on the SMDP and various digital event calendars

Contact dina@smdp.com today!

Main Street

Fire Department Warns Residents About Lithium-Ion Battery Risks During Fire Prevention Week

The Santa Monica Fire Department is urging residents to learn about lithium-ion battery safety during Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 5-11, through community events and educational initiatives.

The department is partnering with the National Fire Protection Association to promote this year's campaign, "Charge into Fire Safety: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home," which emphasizes safe purchasing, charging and recycling practices for these ubiquitous power sources.

Lithium-ion batteries power most rechargeable electronics in homes today, including smartphones, tablets, power tools, laptops, e-cigarettes, headphones and toys. While convenient and powerful, these batteries can overheat, cause fires or even explode if used incorrectly or damaged.

"Lithium-ion batteries are powerful, convenient, and they're just about everywhere," said Fire Marshal Joe Cavin. "This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign helps people understand the importance of using these batteries correctly to prevent fires in the home and to follow the Buy, Charge, and Recycle Safely approach."

The fire department recommends three key safety practices:

Buy only listed products. Research products before purchasing and look for stamps from nationally recognized testing labs on packaging, indicating compliance with safety standards. Many online and retail products may not meet safety requirements and could increase fire risk.

Charge devices safely. Use only manufacturer-provided charging cords and follow all instructions. Purchase replacement chargers from manufacturers or approved sources. Charge devices on hard surfaces, never under pillows, on beds or couches. Avoid overcharging by unplugging devices when fully charged.

Recycle batteries responsibly. Never dispose of lithium-ion batteries in trash or regular recycling bins due to fire risk. Use designated battery recycling locations instead. Visit call2recycle.org to find nearby recycling spots.

The department will host several free community events:

Sunday, Oct. 5, from 9 a.m. to noon, fire department staff will provide information and giveaways at the Santa Monica Main Street Farmers Market.

Saturday, Oct. 11, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Fire Station 1 at 1337 7th Street will host an open house for all ages.

For more information about Fire Prevention Week programs, visit fpw.org.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF



https://www.nfpa.org

EVENT: During Fire Prevention Week, October 5–11, the Santa Monica Fire Department is encouraging locals to educate themselves on the safety of lithium-ion batteries.

Samohi

Santa Monica High School Orchestras Present Fall Benefit Concert Oct. 4

The Santa Monica High School Orchestra Program will present its fall benefit concert "Once Upon a Time... A Magical Evening of Music and Film" Saturday, Oct. 4, at 4 p.m. at Historic Barnum Hall on the school campus.

Under the direction of Jason Aiello and Emily Taylor, the sinfonia, intermezzo, philharmonic and symphony orchestras will perform music from popular films and stories. The program features selections from "The Lion King," "Aladdin," "Moana," "The Chronicles of Narnia," "Avatar: The Last Airbender," "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" and "Flight to Neverland" from Hook.

The family-friendly event includes activities beyond the concert, featuring a costume contest, raffle, bake sale, tacos, an açaí bowl truck and storybook character meet-and-greet. Attendees are encouraged to dress as their favorite characters.

The benefit concert supports the orchestra program, which welcomes all interested students regardless of previous experience or financial situation. The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District provides instruments and instruction from fourth grade through high school to make music education accessible to every student.

Community support has enabled top orchestras to perform at venues across the United States and internationally.

The event begins with concessions at 3 p.m., doors opening at 3:30 p.m. and a costume contest at 3:45 p.m. before the 4 p.m. concert at Historic Barnum Hall, 601 Pico Blvd.

Tickets cost $20 for adults and $10 for students and seniors. Purchase tickets at www.samohiorchestras.org/concerts or support the program at www.samohiorchestras.org/donate.

EDITED BY SMDP STAFF

Santa Monica Education Foundation awards $2.5 million grant to public schools



Diana Bouchaaya

GRANT: The Santa Monica Education Foundation presenting $2.52 grant to SMMUSD.

The Santa Monica Education Foundation awarded a $2.52 million grant to the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District at the district's Aug. 14 Board of Education meeting, marking another milestone in the foundation's growing support for local public education.

The grant represents funds raised through the foundation's 2024-25 annual fund campaign, which generated $2.409 million — a 10% increase from the previous year's approximately $2.2 million total. The funding also draws from three foundation endowments and the Samohi Scholarship Fund to support academics, arts and athletics across all Santa Monica public schools for the 2025-26 school year.

"Every dollar given this past year is a direct investment in our students' futures," said Raymur Flinn, executive director of the Santa Monica Education Foundation. "In a time when public funding falls short of what our children deserve, our donors have stepped up to ensure vibrant, enriching programs remain a core part of a Santa Monica education."

The foundation's fundraising success was driven by record-breaking community participation and innovative fundraising events. The organization's 10th Annual Santa Monica Wine Auction in May raised a record $435,000 in a single evening, held in partnership with the Fairmont Miramar Hotel.

Parent and family participation grew by 17% compared to the previous year, with 2,404 total donors contributing to the campaign — averaging about $980 per donor. Approximately one-third of Santa Monica families donated by the campaign's initial deadline of Jan. 31, 2024, prompting an extended fundraising push through spring 2024.

Corporate support also reached new heights, with the Corporate Heroes sponsorship program contributing $340,741 — an 80% increase from the previous year. Twenty-seven business partners participated in the program, helping offset a slight 4% decrease in contributions from some major individual donors.

The grant funding will support a wide range of educational programs. At the elementary level, the money funds art classes at every school, instructional assistants and enrichment grants that allow each school to design specialized programs in areas including Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, academics and social-emotional learning.

Secondary schools will benefit from college readiness programs, expanded STEM offerings and additional arts programs. The foundation also manages the Samohi Scholarship Fund, which provides more than $200,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors at Santa Monica High School.

"We are deeply appreciative of this extraordinary show of support from our community," said Jen Smith, president of the SMMUSD Board of Education. "These funds open the door to programs and opportunities our students would not otherwise have, including arts, STEM, athletics and social-emotional learning."

The funding breakdown includes approximately $1.8 million for annually funded staff and programs, $361,000 for endowment-funded programs ensuring long-term arts and enrichment support, $128,000 for athletics programs district-wide, and $120,000 for the Samohi Scholarship Fund.

Smith emphasized the partnership's broader impact, saying the collaboration with the Santa Monica Education Foundation "reflects a shared commitment to providing every student in Santa Monica with the tools and experiences they need to thrive."

The foundation's upward fundraising

SEE **GRANT** PAGE 12

DECLARATION

FROM PAGE 1

be reviewed every 60 days under state law.

The extension comes as city officials grapple with significant environmental hazards from February's heavy rains, which washed massive amounts of debris and sediment from fire-denuded hillsides into Sarah Canyon and Malibu Creek. The sediment buildup has raised the creek bottom by approximately four feet, creating what officials describe as a huge threat to nearby properties.

"Following a significant rain event at the end of February 2025, a major amount of debris accumulated in the back of Sarah Canyon, causing severe flooding along properties bordering Malibu Creek," a public speaker said. The crisis extends beyond Sarah Canyon to potentially affect the Civic Center area.

City Public Works Director Rob DuBoux provided an update on efforts to address the emergency during the council meeting, outlining multiple approaches to secure assistance and coordinate cleanup efforts.

"We had a kickoff meeting with Cal OES at the Franklin event, and we brought up the issue," DuBoux told the council, referring to the California Office of Emergency Services. "There are two distinct issues, the debris cleanup and also the sediment buildup in the creek."

The city is pursuing assistance through Cal OES for disaster reimbursement and potential solutions to the sediment crisis. Staff meets with Cal OES representatives almost daily and expected to receive answers on possible solutions within the week, according to Rob.

Additionally, city staff has drafted a letter to California State Parks requesting help with sediment removal from Malibu Creek. The letter specifically targets Richard Fink, the local state parks director, following guidance from the California Natural Resources Agency.

A critical component of the cleanup effort involves securing 'right-of-entry' agreements with private property owners. The city is working to establish such an agreement with Pacera Retreat to allow debris cleanup on private land, particularly urgent given the approaching January and February storm season.

The urgency is heightened by State Parks' timeline for removing the Ring Dam, which is not expected to begin for another five years — too long given current flooding risks.

The Franklin Fire caused extensive damage beyond the immediate burn area. The blaze damaged electrical, irrigation and wastewater systems along Civic Center Way, all requiring replacement. Severely burned trees along the corridor have been designated as dead and must be removed as they now pose safety hazards.

The emergency declaration also addresses increased criminal activity in fire-affected areas. "Areas affected by disasters frequently become targets of criminal activity, including the burglary of uninhabited homes and businesses due to damage and the theft of building materials during the reconstruction process," the resolution states. Officials noted Malibu faces particular vulnerability following both the Franklin Fire and the Palisades Fire.

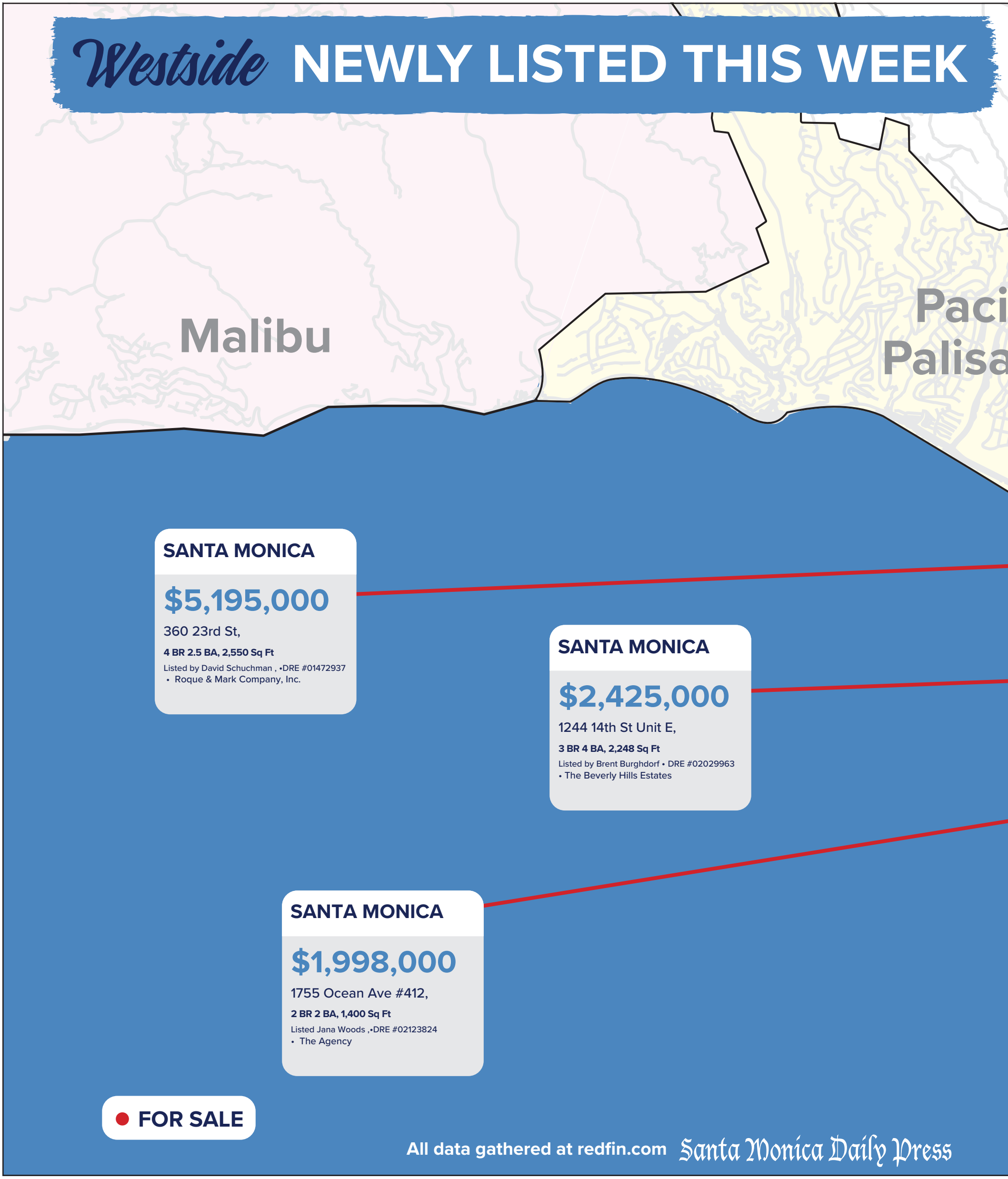
The declaration enables the city and residents to potentially qualify for reimbursement of disaster response expenditures while maintaining the city's emergency response capabilities.

Previous extensions were adopted Jan. 27, March 24, May 21 and June 23, demonstrating the prolonged recovery process. The council will review the emergency status again in 60 days, continuing until conditions no longer pose extreme peril to public safety and property.

maaz@smdp.com

FINDING A NEW DENTIST IS TOUGH!!!
(BUT WE MAKE IT EASY!!!)
YOUR CHOICE
If you don't like what we have to say we will give you a copy of your x-rays at no charge
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
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$99 EXAM AND CLEANING
For New Patients
INCLUDES FULL XRAYS
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SANTA MONICA FAMILY DENTISTRY
DR. ALAN RUBENSTEIN
1260 15th ST. SUITE #703
(310) 736-2589
WWW.ALANRUBENSTEINDDS.COM
WILSHIRE BLVD.
15TH ST.
14TH ST.
ARIZONA AVE.

Westside NEWLY LISTED THIS WEEK



SANTA MONICA

$5,195,000

360 23rd St,

4 BR 2.5 BA, 2,550 Sq Ft

Listed by David Schuchman , •DRE #01472937
• Roque & Mark Company, Inc.

SANTA MONICA

$2,425,000

1244 14th St Unit E,

3 BR 4 BA, 2,248 Sq Ft

Listed by Brent Burghdorf • DRE #02029963
• The Beverly Hills Estates

SANTA MONICA

$1,998,000

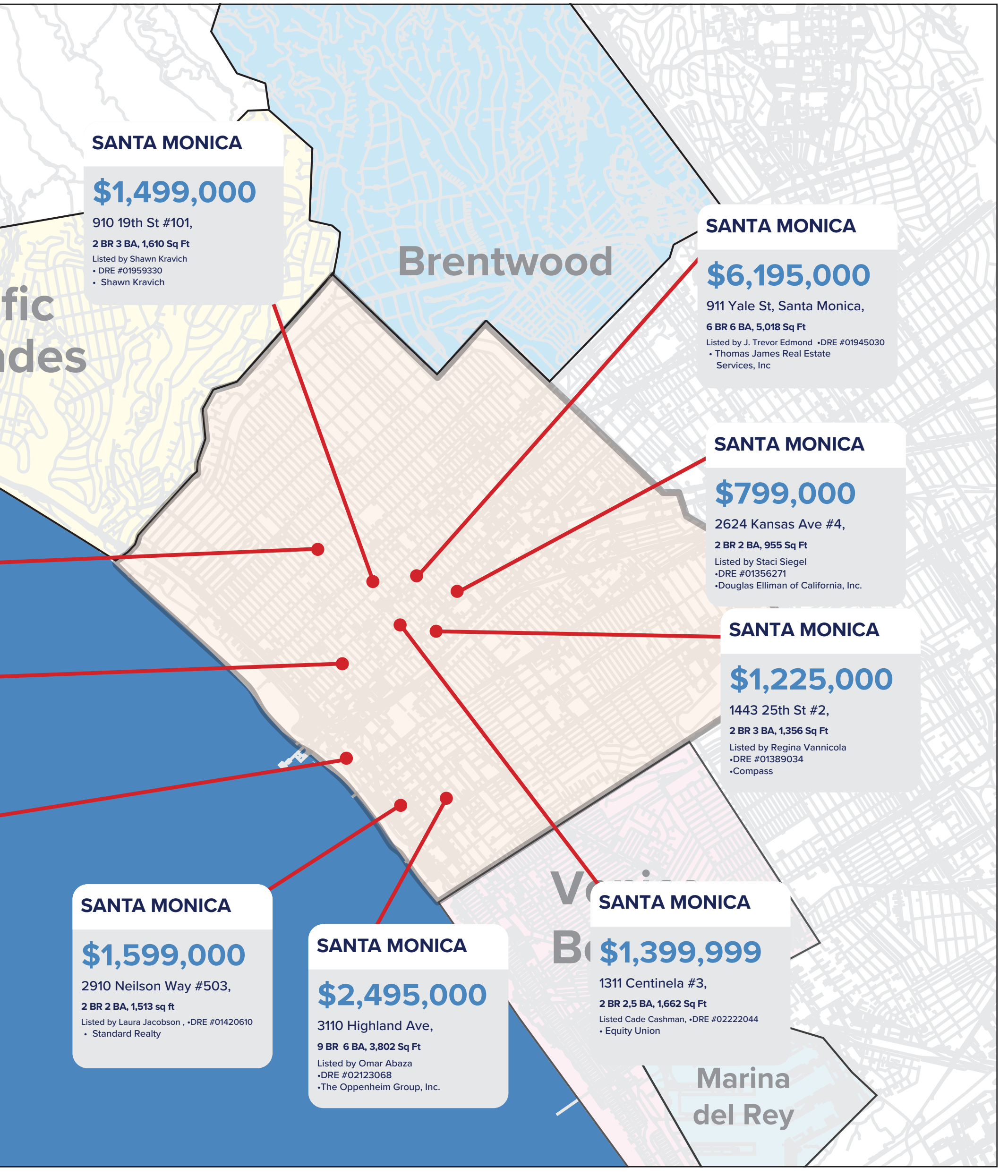
1755 Ocean Ave #412,

2 BR 2 BA, 1,400 Sq Ft

Listed Jana Woods ,•DRE #02123824
• The Agency

● FOR SALE

All data gathered at redfin.com Santa Monica Daily Press



SANTA MONICA

$1,499,000

910 19th St #101,

2 BR 3 BA, 1,610 Sq Ft

Listed by Shawn Kravich
• DRE #01959330
• Shawn Kravich

SANTA MONICA

$6,195,000

911 Yale St, Santa Monica,

6 BR 6 BA, 5,018 Sq Ft

Listed by J. Trevor Edmond •DRE #01945030
• Thomas James Real Estate Services, Inc

SANTA MONICA

$799,000

2624 Kansas Ave #4,

2 BR 2 BA, 955 Sq Ft

Listed by Staci Siegel
•DRE #01356271
•Douglas Elliman of California, Inc.

SANTA MONICA

$1,225,000

1443 25th St #2,

2 BR 3 BA, 1,356 Sq Ft

Listed by Regina Vannicola
•DRE #01389034
•Compass

SANTA MONICA

$1,599,000

2910 Neilson Way #503,

2 BR 2 BA, 1,513 sq ft

Listed by Laura Jacobson , •DRE #01420610
• Standard Realty

SANTA MONICA

$2,495,000

3110 Highland Ave,

9 BR 6 BA, 3,802 Sq Ft

Listed by Omar Abaza
•DRE #02123068
•The Oppenheim Group, Inc.

SANTA MONICA

$1,399,999

1311 Centinela #3,

2 BR 2,5 BA, 1,662 Sq Ft

Listed Cade Cashman, •DRE #02222044
• Equity Union



American Cancer Society®

MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST CANCER®

TAKE ACTION
Register | Donate | Volunteer

Saturday, October 25 at the Santa Monica Pier

Help us end breast cancer as we know it, for everyone.

- **Be the movement by signing up for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer.** Community members can join in saving lives, remembering loved ones and funding the future of breast cancer research and programs by joining the nation's largest and most impactful breast cancer movement. Leading up to the walk, participants can raise funds to help us reach our goal to raise over $600,000, then attend an event in celebration of those efforts.
- **Be the hope by sponsoring the Making Strides movement.** Participants can also become corporate leaders in their community to ensure local survivors and thrivers are celebrated and honored during Breast Cancer Awareness Month.
- **Be the future by donating.** Community members can also help fund the important work of the American Cancer Society by making a donation. Every dollar received is dedicated to ending breast cancer as we know it. Donations can be made by visiting MakingStridesWalk.org/SantaMonica

24/7 CANCER HELPLINE (1-800-227-2345)

The **American Cancer Society helpline** provides 24/7 support by connecting you with trained cancer information specialists who can provide guidance and help find answers through phone, video calls, and live chat via cancer.org.

- **Cancer information specialists:** Our trained staff are available to provide guidance and help find answers through phone, video calls, and online live chat. Assistance in English, Spanish, and 200 other languages via translation service.
- **Nurse support:** Oncology and pediatric oncology nurses are available to assist you with more medically complex questions.
- **Health Insurance Assistance Service:** Our trained specialists can help with questions about your options and rights relating to health insurance and coverage.

24/7

Scan for more information and to access live chat through the ACS cancer helpline.

Breast Cancer Support

If you have breast cancer, you may want to connect with someone who knows what you're feeling – someone who has "been there." The American Cancer Society Reach To Recovery® program connects people facing breast cancer with trained volunteers who are breast cancer survivors. Our volunteers provide one-on-one support to help those facing breast cancer cope with diagnosis, treatment, side effects, finding ways to talk with friends and family, and more. The program is available in English and Spanish.

Hair-loss And Mastectomy Products

Cancer and cancer treatment can have profound effects, including some that can alter a patient's appearance, such as hair loss. The American Cancer Society "tlc" Tender Loving Care® program helps women with appearance-related side effects by offering them a variety of affordable wigs, hats, and scarves as well as a full range of mastectomy products that can be purchased from the privacy of home.



American Cancer Society® Road To Recovery®

Road To Recovery - Free Rides to Treatment For Cancer Patients

One of the biggest roadblocks for people needing cancer treatment can be the lack of transportation. That's why the American Cancer Society Road To Recovery® program provides free rides to treatment through volunteer drivers.

- Trained volunteer drivers donate their time to help people with cancer get to the treatments they need.
- Transportation is provided based on volunteer availability and capacity.



FRIDAY | OCTOBER 3

DRUNK THEATRE: THE WILDEST IMPROV COMEDY SHOW!
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Santa Monica Playhouse 1211 4th St, Santa Monica. A comedian takes five shots of whiskey in a row and tries to perform an improvised play with five sober comedians. What could go wrong?! Drunk Theatre is the entirely improvised, unpredictable, and crazy comedy show that'll kick your weekend into overdrive. Reserve your spot now as limited seating and space is available. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/drunk-theatre-the-wildest-improv-comedy-show-/15793351/2025-10-03T08

BRUNCH FRIDAYS WITH LIVE MUSIC IN OUR GARDEN PATIO!
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Tiato Kitchen & Venue 2700 Colorado Ave Santa Monica. Our newly launched Brunch Fridays just got vibey-er! Every week enjoy great eats, summer libations, and a featured music artist on our beautiful garden patio! So come toast to summer with our uniquely crafted brunch menu including our Turmeric Spiced Cloud Egg dish, Smoked Gouda Scramble with Smashed Ube, Vietnamese French Toast, along with Mama An classics such as Famous Garlic Noodles, Shaken Beef, and Seafood Egg Fried Rice! And of course, it wouldn't be brunch without bottomless mimosas & summer punch bowls, so grab your brunch crew and enjoy the fair along the beautiful backdrop of Al fresco dining. Visit: https://members.smchamber.com/events/details/brunch-fridays-with-live-music-in-our-garden-patio-10-03-2025-21791

DISNEY ANIMATED FILMS
11:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. California Heritage Museum 2612 Main Street Santa Monica. Disney Animated Films showcases more than 100 original works of art from the production of Disney's most cherished animated classics including Bambi, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Peter Pan, Lady and the Tramp and more. We offer visitors an intimate glimpse behind the scenes of filmmaking history. All artwork is generously on loan from the prestigious Mark Hilbert Collection. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/disney-animated-films/16449187/2025-10-03T11

OKTOBERFEST WEEKEND 2 @ SUNSET SESSIONS FEATURING LADYHOSEN
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. The Penmar 1233 Rose Avenue Los Angeles. Join us for the grandest Oktoberfest on the largest public greenspace in on the Westside of LA. GA tickets include: · 3 sets of music from Ladyhosen, an all woman, authentic Bavarian band cranking out yodel hits, waltzes, well known dance tunes like the "chicken dance" to Oktoberfest takes on contemporary Top 40 hits! Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/oktoberfest-weekend-2-sunset-sessions-featuring-ladyhosen/16166077/2025-10-03T18

LIVE MUSIC FRIDAYS AT THE SURFING FOX
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. 120 Colorado Ave. Santa Monica. 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/14385252/2025-09-26T18

STORYECTOMY* END CANCER SEASON 6
8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. The Crow 2525 Michigan Avenue #Unit F4 Santa Monica. Storyectomy* : Real, Raw & Revolutionary for cancer survivors, thrivers, & caregivers • FOR END CANCER (ACS) www.cancer.org. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/storyectomy-end-cancer-season-6/16991238/2025-10-03T20

SATURDAY | OCTOBER 4

MINI FALL FESTIVAL & SMC GLASS SALE
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. VIRGINIA AVENUE PARK 2200 Virginia Avenue Santa Monica 2200 Virginia Ave Santa Monica. PICO FARMERS MARKET & VIRGINIA AVENUE PARK MINI FALL FESTIVAL & SMC GLASS SALE VIRGINIA AVENUE PARK 2200 Virginia Avenue Santa Monica, CA. 90404 October 4, 2025 | 9:00AM-12:00PM Art Booth Face Painting Photo Booth Live Music Pumpkin Patch (Free Pumpkins for Youth 12 & Under while supplies last - One per Child) Booths from Pico Businesses Animal Kingdom & Virtual Snow. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/mini-fall-festival-smc-glass-sale/16991657/2025-10-04T09

REPAIR CAFÉ AT MARINE PARK
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Marine Park 1406 Marine St Santa Monica. Join us for the Repair Café held at Marine Park on October 4th, 2025 from 11:00am to 3:00pm. This event is open to anyone - not just Santa Monica residents. Bring your items to be repaired by volunteers. Please be prepared to wait for volunteer availability and repairs. The final list of items accepted for repair will be posted closer to the date of the event. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/repiar-caf-at-marine-park/14544553/2025-10-04T11

ARTISTS & FLEAS: VENICE MARKETPLACE
11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Westminster Elementary School 1010 Abbot Kinney Los Angeles. Artists & Fleas in Venice is located in the vibrant, artistic heart of Venice at the corner of Abbot Kinney and Westminster Avenue in the outdoor lot of Westminister Avenue Elementary School. Join 50+ merchants every Saturday (rain or shine!) for a fabulous lineup of art, design, food trucks and vintage. Date: Every Saturday Time: 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM Location: Westminster Elementary School - 1010 Abbot Kinney Check our website here for a list of vendors. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/artists-fleas-venice-marketplace/14548485/2025-10-04T11

COUNTRY BEACH PARTY@ PERRY'S BEACH
3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. 930 Pacific Coast Highway Santa Monica. Presented by AVA and COUNTRY NIGHT | Giveaways & Special Guests | Santa Monica Beach • VIP Cabana & VIP Day Beds • Full Bar. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/country-beach-party-perry-s-beach/16991274/2025-10-04T15

SANTA MONICA SYMPHONY PRESENTS SCENES FROM LIFE: MOVEMENT
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. John Adams Middle School Performing Arts Center 1630 Pearl St. Santa Monica. The Santa Monica Symphony opens its season with a high-energy program celebrating the many meanings of movement. Visit: The Santa Monica Symphony opens its season with a high-energy program celebrating the many meanings of movement.

TCHAIKOVSKY & MUSSORGSKY AT BROADSTAGE
7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. The Eli and Edythe Broad Stage 1310 11th Street Santa Monica. Join the LLS Orchestra at The Eli and Edythe Broad Stage for Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 and Symphony No. 5. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/tchaikovsky-mussorgsky-at-broadstage/16758925/2025-10-04T19

SUNDAY | OCTOBER 5

THE WATERFRONT - SUNDAY REAL FUNDAY BRUNCH BUFFET
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The Waterfront 205 Ocean Front Walk Venice. Enjoy a bottomless brunch buffet Sundays at The Waterfront! The Waterfront Venice is a full-service restaurant celebrating Californian cuisine with views of the Pacific Ocean. Situated between Rose and Navy on the famous Venice Beach Boardwalk, our food & beverage menus celebrate California with carefully selected seasonal produce from local farms. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/the-waterfront-sunday-real-funday-brunch-buffet/14894114/2025-10-05T11

CINEMA SUNDAYS AT SUNSET ON THE PROM
5:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Third Street Promenade Santa Monica. Enjoy Santa Monica this summer - it's cooler at the beach! We have planned an unforgettable season of public programming on Third. This August, Third Street Promenade transforms into Santa Monica's most charming outdoor movie theater. Gather with friends at the sea of Pretty in Pink picnic tables (we'll have music playing before your arrival, so you can grab a drink and a bite from your favorite local restaurant). Then settle in beneath the stars for Cinema Nights - a free summer movie series celebrating the magic of Hot August Nights. (Ugo will have NA champagne for when you want the hangout to last longer.) Cinema Sundays, taking place on Santa Monica Blvd., starts in August on Sundays at sunset. The Goonies will be screened on August 10 as part of Heal the Bay's 40th Birthday Party weekend on the prom, kicking off a 12-week movie series of classics screened in an iconic local venue that is free and open to all. Cinema Sundays at Sunset marks the start of weekly programming, launching a new era of public life on the promenade. We do hope you'll join us. ➔ Sundays in August through October ➔ Movies begin at sunset ➔ Third Street Promenade Bring a blankie as it gets cold at night. We'll save you a seat. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/cinema-sundays-at-sunset-on-the-prom/16376884/2025-10-05T17

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/14970341/2025-10-05T00

MONDAY | OCTOBER 6

ARBOR VENICE MONDAY NIGHT POOL TOURNEY
5:30 p.m. 2907 Main Street CA 90405 Join us at the pool table on the Back Patio Santa Monica. Join in the fun as Arbor Venice takes over Tavern on Main. We'll be showing awesome skateboard and snowboarding footage on our screens and hosting a pool tourney with awesome prizes for the winner each week. Monday $9 Burger+Beer special is a great addition to the festivities. Come and play, hang or whatever suits your mood. All are welcome at Tavern on Main. Visit: https://smdp.com/events/#/details/arbor-venice-monday-night-pool-tourney/14639005/2025-10-06T17

SHUTDOWN

FROM PAGE 2

White House officials refused to speculate on the future use of pocket rescissions after rolling them out in late August. But one of Vought's former colleagues, insisting on anonymity to discuss the budget director's plans, said that future pocket rescissions could be 20 times higher.

Shutdown continues with no endgame in sight

Thursday is Day 2 of the shutdown, and already the dial is turned high. The aggressive approach coming from the Trump administration is what certain lawmakers and budget observers feared if Congress, which has the responsibility to pass legislation to fund government, failed to do its work and relinquished control to the White House.

Vought, in a private conference call with House GOP lawmakers Wednesday afternoon, told them of layoffs starting in the next day or two. It's an extension of the Department of Government Efficiency work under Elon Musk that slashed through the federal government at the start of the year.

"These are all things that the Trump administration has been doing since January 20th," said House Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries, referring to the president's first day in office. "The cruelty is the point."

House Speaker Mike Johnson underscored Thursday that the shutdown gives Trump and Vought vast power over the federal government. He blamed Democrats and said "they have effectively turned off the legislative branch" and "handed it over to the president."

"When Congress turns off the funding, and the funding runs out, it is up to the commander-in-chief, the president of the United States, to determine how those resources will be spent," Johnson said.

Still, Johnson said that Trump and Vought take "no pleasure in this."

Trump and the congressional leaders are not expected to meet again soon. Congress has no action scheduled Thursday in observance of the Jewish holy day, with senators due back Friday. The House is set to resume session next week.

The Democrats are holding fast to their demands to preserve health care funding and refusing to back a bill that fails to do so, warning of price spikes for millions of Americans nationwide.

THIS SHUTDOWN COULD HARM THE ECONOMY

With no easy endgame at hand, the standoff risks dragging deeper into October, when federal workers who remain on the job will begin missing paychecks. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office has estimated roughly 750,000 federal workers could be furloughed on any given day during the shutdown, a loss of $400 million daily in wages.

The economic effects could spill over into the broader economy. Past shutdowns saw "reduced aggregate demand in the private sector for goods and services, pushing down GDP," the CBO said.

"Stalled federal spending on goods and services led to a loss of private-sector income that further reduced demand for other goods and services in the economy," it said. Overall CBO said there was a "dampening of economic output," but that reversed once people returned to work.

Past shutdowns have done minimal economic damage, in part because their consequences were either contained or reversed once the government fully reopened. But the impact would be different if there were permanent layoffs at a time when the labor market was already starting to struggle.

HOW TRUMP AND VOUGHT CAN RESHAPE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

With Congress as a standstill, the Trump administration has taken advantage of new levers to determine how to shape the federal government.

The Trump administration can tap into funds to pay workers at the Defense Department and Homeland Security from what's commonly called the "One Big Beautiful Bill" that was signed into law this summer, according to the CBO.

That would ensure Trump's immigration enforcement and mass deportation agenda is uninterrupted. But employees who remain on the job at many other agencies will have to wait for government to reopen before they get a paycheck.

By LISA MASCARO, JOSH BOAK and SEUNG MIN KIM Associated Press. Associated Press writers Chris Megerian, Stephen Groves, Joey Cappelletti, Matt Brown, Kevin Freking, and Mary Clare Jalonick contributed to this report.

ARCADE

FROM PAGE 5

the Gordon family operated games from a large tent on an adjacent lot to avoid closing during construction. That lot later became home to Pacific Park, the pier's modern amusement park.

The arcade survived its most recent test during the COVID-19 pandemic, shutting down for 15 months per public health orders before reopening in mid-2021. The closure came just after the family had installed a new digital card system to replace traditional quarters in early 2020.

"This place holds so many memories—from first dates and birthday parties to generations of families competing at Skeeball," said Dana Picore, co-owner and great-granddaughter of Pops Gordon. "Seventy-one years later, we're still ringing with the sound of laughter and games—and we hope to keep it that way for decades to come."

The arcade's iconic retro atmosphere has made it a popular Hollywood filming location, appearing in numerous movies and television shows including "The Sting," "Forrest Gump," "Three's Company," "Iron Man," "Hancock," "Beverly Hills Cop III," "A Night at the Roxbury" and "The Kissing Booth 2."

Most of Playland's staff members have remained with the business for decades and are treated as extended family, contributing to the welcoming, multigenerational atmosphere that visitors experience.

"Playland Arcade has always been about more than just games—it's about tradition, connection, and joy," said Monique Giroux, granddaughter of George Gordon and current co-owner. "We're honored to carry this torch into a new era while preserving the magic that's made Playland Arcade a multigenerational, family treasure."

Playland Arcade operates seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., opening at 9 a.m. during summer months. More information is available at playlandarcade.com or by calling (310) 451-5133.

maaz@smdp.com

HOA

FROM PAGE 3

that require more formality, the board must hold a hearing where residents can explain themselves before a fine is levied. But there are extreme instances where situations escalate and devolve into expensive disputes between residents.

The new state law bans HOAs from charging late fees or interest in addition to the $100 cap, with the exception of rules that affect public health or safety. It also gives residents more leeway to absolve fees after they've been charged.

Lawmakers said it is a step toward addressing exorbitant fees prevalent in some HOAs.

"With nearly 65% of California homeowners living in HOAs, excessive fees have quietly drained family finances for too long," said Wahab, who heralded the effort, in an emailed statement. "By capping fines –– except for health and safety –– we set fair standards, protect generational wealth, and finally put homeowners and HOA boards on equal footing."

Some homeowners also see the new restrictions as a necessary check on boards that misuse their power over superfluous violations, such as painting a home a bold color.

"Our concern about violation fines in the past are that there has been no procedure for determining if a violation has occurred," said Marjorie Murray, an advocate for homeowners with the Center for California Homeowner Association Law. "The board tells the homeowner they're guilty until the homeowner proves their innocence."

Many board members are fearful of the consequences of their diminished power and worry how it will affect their ability to enforce neighborhood rules, Zepponi said.

"You don't have the leverage anymore to get people to change bad behavior," Zepponi said. A neighbor who leaves their RV parked on the driveway in violation of association rules might just eat the $100 rather than pay for RV storage that is more expensive, he said.

"It takes a tool away from a board to make behavioral changes that are needed," he said.

Board members have also argued that the lower fine could cost the entire community more if a neighbor continues to break the rules and refuses to pay their fees, forcing boards to pursue the only available alternative — costly litigation — more frequently.

The change is not expected to affect HOAs financially, as fines are not a significant amount of their revenue stream, according to Community Associations Institute lawyer Louis Brown.

"The days of homeowners associations telling you that your garage door needs to be painted might be over," said Susolik, the attorney who has represented homeowners and HOA boards. "That's probably a good thing."

Nadia Lathan, Politics Reporter

GUEST COMMENTARY

FROM PAGE 4

that gas prices have dropped below $2 a gallon (they have not) or to proclaim the United States has "no inflation" (it does). His supporters — even those facing high prices or lacking jobs — imagine they're the exception, that the economy overall is doing well because the president says so.

Those are data-driven debates, subject to lies, as Trump well knows.

Homelessness is an experience-driven debate, where voters are less likely to trust numbers and leaders. But it's vulnerable to a different kind of misunderstanding: the distortions of our own experiences.

Homelessness isn't worse just because I have a bad run-in with an unhoused person, but it feels like it. And it isn't better just because the encampment near my son's apartment is gone for the moment.

But I have to admit that it seemed better.

And, what's more, the measure of progress on this issue is not just personal, it's also ephemeral, more a feeling of respite than of resolution. Even as my son's Silver Lake neighborhood enjoyed the calm of last week, there was an air of resignation in the community, a near-certainty that the encampment, though dispersed for the moment, would eventually form again.

When I drove through there Tuesday, one tent had returned beneath the freeway. As the weather turns colder, more may follow. With that will come the bracing reminder that healing in this area is hard to assess and hard to hold on to.

Jim Newton, CalMatters Contributor

GRANT

FROM PAGE 7

trend represents a strategic shift toward broader community participation rather than relying solely on major donors. This approach has proven successful, with overall fundraising growing by more than 10% since the pandemic and enabling more robust support for school programs.

Established in 1982 by parents, community leaders and local business owners, the Santa Monica Education Foundation has consistently worked to enhance and supplement the curriculum of Santa Monica schools. The organization's mission focuses on engaging the community to invest in educational experiences for all public school students in Santa Monica.

The foundation's success in the 2024-25 campaign demonstrates the community's continued commitment to public education excellence, ensuring that funding gaps don't compromise the quality of education available to Santa Monica students.

Flinn noted that the foundation's work "strengthens not just our schools, but our entire community," highlighting the broader impact of educational investment on the Santa Monica area.

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

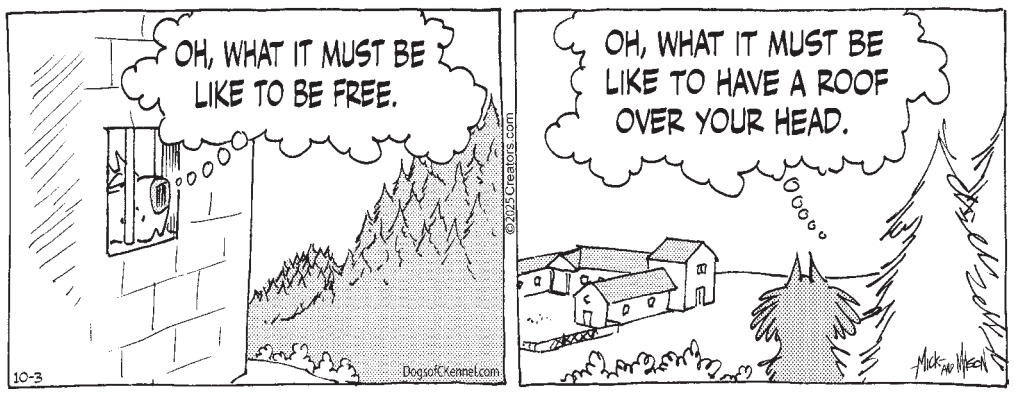
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"I WANT ONE OF THOSE."

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 24 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com 6717

Valentine's Day

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

Accept
Adoring
Affectionate
Angel
Anniversary
Balloons
Beach
Beloved
Candy
Card
Cherub
Confetti
Couple
Crazy
Crush
Dear
Delight
Dinner
Embrace
Eros
Friend
Gift
Honey
Hugs
Kiss
Like
Party
Pink
Poem
Restaurant
Romance
Secret admirer
Smitten
Sweets
Wild about

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 3)

Welcome to your Year of Steady Ascent. Habit by habit, goal by goal, you keep setting achievable aims and hitting or adjusting, and, most importantly, continuing. It also helps that you've a knack for picking aims, and people, who love you back. More highlights: Cash from an unexpected channel, a family win that gives everyone more breathing room, meaningful jobs and connections brought in by your magnetism. Gemini and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 42, 1, 10 and 16.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Something stops you from throwing yourself completely into the action, unselfconscious and free - the awareness of how you're being perceived. Self-monitoring has its place. Your genius lies in walking the line between abandon and reflection.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). People's choices won't move in a straight line; nor will your own. Sometimes we act with intention; other times we get sidetracked or restless for no clear reason. That wandering is simply part of being human.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). A raucous spirit rises in you. Kicking down barriers isn't about destruction in this case, but about expression. You'll align your surroundings - your clothes, art, environment and every part of your style - with a renegade energy. How liberating!

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Those with nothing to prove have no problem admitting the gaps in their knowledge. Besides, finding answers is half the fun. And since you never did pretend to know everything, you're free to be "just as you are" along the way.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). In a healthy group, the burdens and blessings of any individual become a part of the collective. Hard things will feel easier. Avoid those who lead your focus to the negative. They are draining to be around, and you're better off on your own.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You don't have to be perfect to be lovable. You already are so lovable - in messy moments, and in your brilliance, too. Give yourself the rest you need. It's the act of self-care that will matter most in keeping you healthy and wise.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The clouds shape themselves to delight the creative mind - you. The moon shines for musers and wanderers - also you. The stars for those who look up - you again. Because you appreciate what's overhead, you'll find surprises waiting at your feet.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Today you may be struck by the realization that you have some of the same questions you had as a child, or the same moods of your adolescence. It doesn't mean you haven't grown. The angst may rhyme, but it doesn't repeat.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Willpower often feels scarce, but today you'll be fueled by a cosmic current that makes discipline easier. The sting of effort softens, and in its place comes the deep satisfaction of progress and the lightness of no regrets.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Relationships get better as expectations touch down to earth. Instead of aiming for constant joy, look for balance: Do I feel safe, respected and, for the most part, understood? These are the anchors, not endless bliss.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're privy to wisdom that communicates physically - in goosebumps or restlessness, in tingles, tightness, a change of breath or a thousand other signals. It's intelligence far beyond what the mind can grasp.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You give others room to make mistakes. You can't control relationships, but you can control how you frame and engage with them. You'll choose compassion. It has a better outcome and is, quite frankly, easier.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

Answer to current puzzle

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

10/02/25

Sudoku

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

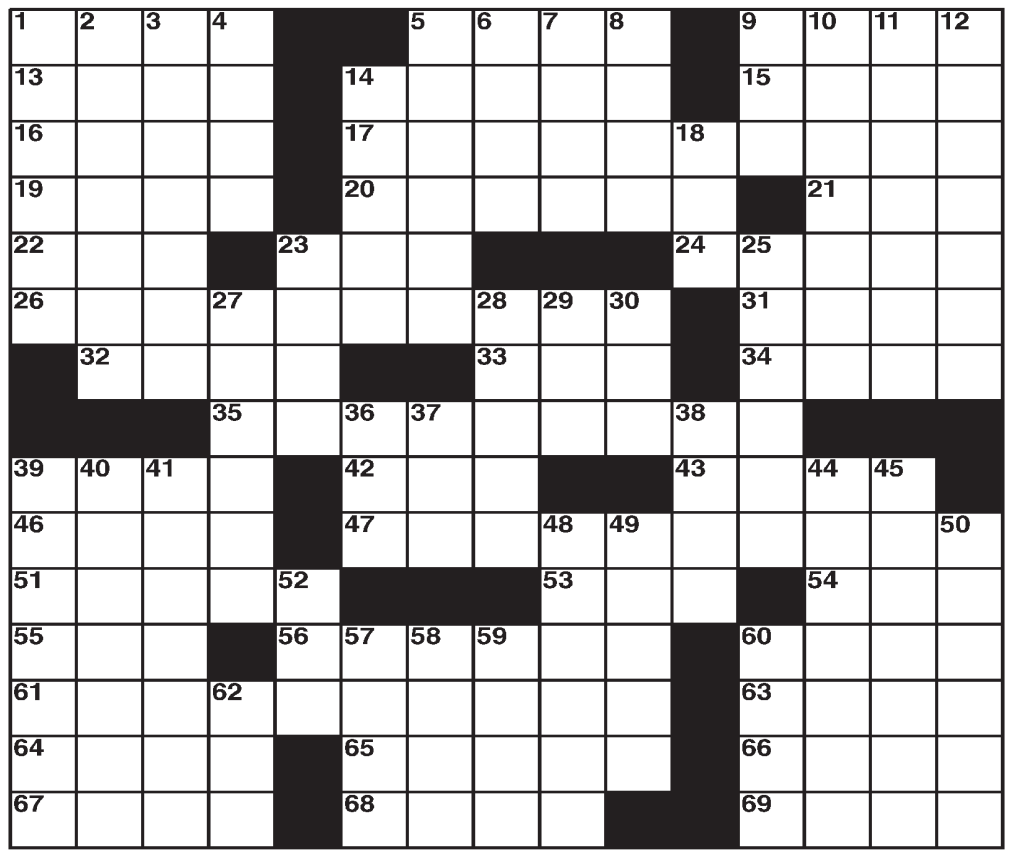
WORKING FOR TIPS by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Surveillance, so to speak
5 Pay deduction acronym
9 Marlon Oscar role
13 Long lunch
14 Fairgoer of rhyme
15 Beauty bar brand
16 *Little Mermaid* prince
17 They're down-to-earth
19 Get a loan on
20 Cost to get your cash
21 Ending like -ling
22 Seek enlightenment
23 Store to improve
24 Yolk surrounder
26 Unite
31 Wrapped up
32 *Last Jedi* general
33 Emulating
34 Helm a film, in show biz slang
35 Intellectual aid
39 Iffy attempt
42 Butterfly, for short
43 Table pastime
46 Coffee shop machine
47 Consider in advance
51 Chesapeake Bay occupation
53 Case worker's org.
54 Do-say connector
55 Tkt. seller
56 Not at all eager
60 Followers meaning "followers"
61 Amazonian ecosystem
63 "You're wrong"
64 Austen protagonist
65 Cellar dwellers
66 Be vexed
67 Heartfelt
68 Acorn, essentially
69 *Simpsons* bus driver

DOWN

1 Leon Uris novel
2 Street artist's medium
3 British mason
4 What you'd expect to be around a foot
5 Coffee shop accessory
6 Title akin to rabbi
7 Salon offering
8 Henry's 2nd or 4th
9 Mediterranean diet staple, for short
10 "It's just a scratch"
11 Break for a bit
12 Raw bar array
14 Puck's Beverly Hills place
18 Nearly none
23 Off yonder
25 Cling
27 Early show of interest
28 Chair artisan
29 Brothers Grimm magician
30 Azores' __ Miguel island
36 UN delegate
37 "__ big fan"
38 Eyesight suffix
39 Ran the wrong way?
40 No-win situation
41 Best yet, per record books
44 Not precisely
45 Lamppost flier subject
48 Fueled (up)
49 Shills with, say
50 Meet successfully
52 Victoria Cross awarder
57 Solemn exchange
58 Where the Detroit River ends
59 Name meaning "born again"
60 "Tips" found in the five longest answers
62 Break for a bit



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10/03/25

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

PARKS

FROM PAGE 1

In response, the Trump administration has floated firing federal workers en masse and canceling grants to states during the shutdown.

"Democrats are hoping to use the one bit of leverage that they have left in Washington at this time to make it clear what they stand for," said Thad Kousser, a political science professor at UC San Diego. "And the question is: Can they hold out against the political and policy pain that Donald Trump is hoping to impose by threatening more layoffs of government employees?"

The federal government shut down three times during the Obama and Trump presidencies. Each one presents a hardship for government employees, who are either furloughed or obliged to work without pay.

About 150,000 federal employees work in California, not counting the 160,000 active-duty military service members in the state who also will go without pay during a shutdown.

In the past when facing possible federal shutdowns, the state had a contingency plan to try to avoid disruptions in certain services. In late 2023, it planned to pay one month's worth of federal food assistance early to advance aid to families in the event of a shutdown.

But this year there's no such commitment yet from the Department of Finance, as Gov. Gavin Newsom's administration weighs the possibility of a lengthy shutdown.

"There isn't an open-ended long-term line of credit where the state's general fund can be assumed to make up for any federal fund shortfall," finance spokesperson H.D. Palmer said.

Here's a look at what Californians can expect to happen if a shutdown occurs this week.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND HEALTH CARE

Most Californians shouldn't worry about a federal shutdown impacting their Social Security benefits or their health care access in the near term.

About 6.5 million Californians receive benefits through the Social Security Administration and those checks are expected to continue going out during a shutdown.

But, customer service could suffer depending on how many employees are told to stay home, according to the National Committee to Preserve Social Security & Medicare.

That includes "benefit verifications, earnings record corrections and updates, overpayments processing, and replacing Medicare cards. The level of disruption will depend on how many (Social Security Administration) employees the Trump administration deems 'essential' and 'non-essential' during the shutdown," Max Richtman, the organization's president, said in a written statement.

Medicaid and Medicare, which pay for health care for low-income individuals, people with disabilities and seniors, are mandatory programs that are exempt from the annual appropriations process.

Jan Emerson-Shea, spokesperson for the California Hospital Association, said "essential services" like insurance payments to hospitals and doctors will continue.

Some discretionary programs, however, like food stamps and benefits for women, infants and children may be impacted by a shutdown.

One group that could be disproportionately affected by even a brief federal shutdown are native and indigenous populations. Many of the 723,000 American Indians living in California get health care at clinics that are funded through federal grants. The clinics are often small and may have very little reserves to weather a funding pause, said Nanette Star, policy director for the California Consortium for Urban Indian Health.

"Even a short shutdown can mean staff furloughs, service cuts, patient service delays," Star said.

AIRPORTS AND TRAVEL

You'll be able to fly and take trains during a government shutdown, but you might experience more delays.

That's because air traffic controllers and Transportation Security Administration agents are among the government employees who would be expected to show up for work without getting paid. The longer a shutdown drags out, the more likely it is that the system will strain and workers will call in sick.

The U.S. Travel Association, which advocates for the industry, released a statement last week that included a survey showing many people would cancel or postpone travel during a shutdown, which it argued would ripple through the economy.

"A shutdown is a wholly preventable blow to America's travel economy—costing $1 billion every week—and affecting millions of travelers and businesses while placing unnecessary strain on an already overextended federal travel workforce," said Geoff Freeman, the organization's president.

WILDFIRES AND DISASTERS

A federal shutdown won't ground firefighters, but could slow the money that pays for future disaster prep.

Nick Schuler, a spokesperson for Cal Fire, said the agency does not expect a shutdown to affect its "ability to respond to and aggressively attack fires" and will continue to operate as normal. In past shutdowns, he said, U.S. Forest Service firefighters have still been available for emergency response and pointed to California's "robust Master Mutual Aid System," which ensures resources respond regardless of jurisdiction.

Still, he cautioned that what keeps engines running today might not pay for the prevention work of tomorrow: "Any disruption to grant funding that supports fire prevention and wildfire resiliency could have negative impacts," he said.

Newsom's office said the Federal Emergency Management Agency would keep "core life-saving operations" going during a shutdown but that payments to states would stall and recovery efforts would be put on hold. That means Californians could see first responders in action but face delays in reimbursement or recovery projects.

Other science agencies like the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S. Geological Survey could face interruptions that affect California's disaster readiness, the governor's spokesperson said.

NATIONAL PARKS

National parks are open, but you won't be able to access the full range of services they provide.

The Interior Department is planning to keep the gates open and retain enough parks employees to clean bathrooms and dispose of garbage through the shutdown. Visitors centers are expected to close, however, and the National Park Service may restrict access if safety becomes an issue.

The National Parks Conservation Association projects daily losses of $1 million in fee revenue for the parks, and $77 million for the gateway communities that surround them during the shutdown.

It also estimates that the National Park Service has lost 24% of its permanent staff since Trump's second term began, and left thousands of seasonal positions unfilled.

"It will be worse this time than it was last time around, simply because the parks are already struggling," said Kate Groetzinger, communications manager at the Center for Western Priorities, an environmental advocacy group.

Morale among National Park workers is bad already — and a shutdown will make it worse, said Bernadette Johnson, a former superintendent of Manzanar National Historic Site, where during World War II the U.S. government incarcerated thousands of Japanese Americans.

"The attack has just been so furious. And I think that federal employees are being demonized, as these lazy bureaucrats that we are not … It breaks my heart to watch," Johnson said. "The people left behind are holding all of that work now, because the work didn't go away."

However long a shutdown may play out, Lauretig over at Joshua Tree said he's ready.

"I still have a loft (full) of toilet paper, trash bags, bleach, cleaning materials, gloves waiting for the next event — which, you know, could be imminent."

Rachel Becker, Water Reporter, Kristen Hwang, Health Reporter. Alejandro Lazo, Climate Reporter. Cayla Mihalovich, California Local News Fellow. Jeanne Kuang, Capitol Reporter

Classifieds

Petition to Admin Estate

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: Esfir Khazan CASE NUMBER: 25STPB07255 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of Esfir Khazan.A Petition for Probate has been filed by Jennifer Smilowitz in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles-Stanley Mosk Courthouse. The Petition for Probate requests that Jennifer Smilowitz be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: Date: Oct 30th , 2025 Time: 8:30 a.m Dept. 11 Room _ Address of Court: Stanley Mosk Courthouse 111 N. Hill St Los Angeles, CA 90012 If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for the Petitioner: Robert B. Rosenstein/Paul N. Evenson Rosenstein k Associates 28600 Mercedes St Temecula, CA 92590Telephone: 951-296-3888 Fax: 951-29603888 Email: Robert@thetemeculalawfirm.com

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 08/8/25 20251169976The following person(s) is (are) doing business as NOLOOK 533 BROOKS AVE APT 6 VENICE, CA 90291 Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are GOLDEN GRASSHOPPER LLC 533 BROOKS AVE APT 6 VENICE, CA 90291 If corporation or LLC- Print State of CAThis is Business is Conducted: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY . The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 09/2024 Registrant /Corp/ LLC GOLDEN GRASSHOPPER LLC Title: CEO JULIA MONTGOMERY HAMMON . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 08/8/2025NOTICE: 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).

Name Change

Order Show to show cause for Name Change Case No.25SMCP00486 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Youssef Akhlarzad for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Youssef Akhtarzad court for a decree of changing names as follows: Youssef Akhtarzad to Joseph Akhtarzad . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 10/24 /2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: _ The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES Santa Monica Courthouse 7125 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90401. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE

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

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

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FALL & WINTER



Photo by Ed Gandara

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