

*La Mirada*  
**Living**  
APRIL 2018



**Mother-Daughter Tea**

**Tea with Teddy & Friends**

SATURDAY, MAY 12  
ACTIVITY CENTER



## Mother-Daughter Tea Saturday, May 12

Grandmothers, mothers, daughters, and friends are invited to have tea on Saturday, May 12 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the La Mirada Activity Center. The tea will feature live entertainment, crafts, souvenir photos, and door prizes. Guests are encouraged to wear their favorite party outfit and participate in the fashion show! Bring your own teacup for a chance to win a prize for the most decorative, unique, or traditional tea sets. The cost is \$17 for ages 3 to 11 and \$27 for ages 12 and older. Seating is limited. For additional information, contact the Activity Center at (562) 902-3160.

## Water Safety Month

The City of La Mirada will be observing May as National Water Safety Month. Splash! La Mirada Regional Aquatics Center offers group, semi-private, and private swim lessons. Lessons are available for children ages six months and older, as well as adults. Splash! also participates in a number of water safety education programs, including classroom presentations for second grade students.

Tragically, drowning remains the leading cause of unintended injury or death for children ages one to five. Drowning is also the second leading cause of accidental death for children under the age of 14. Participation in formal swimming lessons can reduce the risk of drowning by 88 percent among children ages one to four.

Register for swimming classes by calling (562) 902-3191 or by visiting [splashlamirada.com](http://splashlamirada.com).



## World's Largest Swim Lesson

Join Splash! lifeguards and swimmers from around the world in the World's Largest Swim Lesson at Splash! on Thursday, June 21 at 9 a.m. This free event is open to all ages and helps send this important message, "Swim lessons save lives!" Participants ages 13 and under will receive free waterpark admission following the lesson with a paid adult. Pre-register today at Splash! or online at [splashlamirada.com](http://splashlamirada.com).

## Free Mulch Distribution, Paper Shredding, and E-Waste Collection Event

A free mulch distribution event sponsored by the City of La Mirada and EDCO Disposal will be held on Saturday, May 12 from 9 a.m. to noon. Mulch is used to retain moisture in the soil, suppress weeds, keep the soil cool, and make the garden bed look more attractive. This is a self-serve, self-loading service, and residents must bring their own cans/bags and shovel. A limit of three cans/bags per vehicle will be enforced. Bring a tarp to cover the material if bringing an open truck or trailer.

Residents can also protect the security of their confidential information by shredding personal documents. Certified shredding trucks will be present during the event and all items will be shredded on site. Quantities are limited to three bankers boxes (10"x12"x15") per household. Unwanted electronics (e-waste) including TVs, computer monitors, printers, fax machines, and VCRs, will also be collected.

This event is limited to La Mirada residents and will be located in the parking lot at the La Mirada Community Gymnasium, located at 15105 Alicante Road. Please bring proof of residency (i.e. CA Driver's License or utility bill). Residents are asked to enter the Community Gymnasium parking lot from Alicante Road. Household Hazardous Waste will not be accepted.

For additional information, contact the Public Works Department at (562) 902-2385.

## Fourth Annual La Mirada Prayer Breakfast

Join the community, civic leaders, and local clergy in an opportunity to gather at the fourth annual La Mirada Prayer Breakfast. This annual event will be held on Friday, April 13, at 7 a.m. at the Holiday Inn, 14299 Firestone Boulevard. Guests will have an opportunity to enjoy an inspiring morning of music, unity, prayer, a delicious buffet style breakfast, and fellowship. This year's keynote speaker will be Supervisor Janice Hahn of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, District 4. Tickets start at \$20 per person and should be reserved by Monday, April 9. For additional information, visit [lmmpb.org](http://lmmpb.org) or call (714) 521-6765.

# City Budget Review Shows Healthy Finances

The City Council recently reviewed the mid-year budget report for Fiscal Year 2017-18. The report showed key revenue sources remain stable with some expected to exceed budget estimates. Overall, General Fund operating revenues for the current year are expected to reach \$43.3 million. General Fund operating expenditures are projected at \$32.8 million. These figures do not include fund transfers. These estimates reflect ongoing efforts to manage costs even with conservative budgeting.

At mid-year, Measure I revenues were \$2.35 million. The one percent, voter-approved sales tax ends on March 31, 2018. Since April 2013, Measure I has generated approximately \$28.72 million, exceeding the expectation of \$20 million or \$4 million, annually. This funding source has been used for neighborhood infrastructure improvements over the past several years. The City has completed three phases of neighborhood street improvements. The fourth phase is currently in construction, and the fifth phase is under design.

The mid-year report also emphasized the City's continued commitment to maintaining public safety as a top priority and its ongoing investment in improving local infrastructure. The City will look to other funding sources and use new transportation funds for future infrastructure projects to minimize the impact on the City's General Fund.

To view the mid-year budget report, visit [cityoflamirada.org](http://cityoflamirada.org).

## Improve the Environment; Safely Dispose of Household Hazardous Waste

Many actions can be taken to better the environment. Simply throwing most recycling in the blue trash cans is a good start, yet not all recyclables are created equal. Aside from metal, paper, glass, and cardboard, some items such as batteries, electronics and harmful liquids have more specialized methods of disposal. Many of these materials are found around the house and are referred to as household hazardous waste or HHW.

La Mirada residents may safely dispose of personal household hazardous waste on Saturday, May 5 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at La Mirada Regional Park. This event will be held in the Tennis Court Parking Lot near Adelfa Drive. Staff from the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts will be available to collect the items. A limit of 15 gallons or 125 pounds of hazardous waste per trip will be enforced. Materials such as motor oil, paint, turpentine, cleaners that contain acids or lye, household and car batteries, pesticides and garden herbicides may be brought to the event.

Follow the tips below to better prepare for the HHW collection event:

- Pack HHW in cardboard boxes to prevent spillage during transportation. Be prepared to leave containers and boxes.
- Place like chemicals together. Separate unlike chemicals.
- Label materials that are not in their original containers.
- Make sure containers are not leaking and lids are tightly sealed.
- Place boxes in car trunk, away from passengers during transport.
- Remove all other items from trunk.

For additional information, call the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County at (800) 238-0172 or the City of La Mirada's Public Works Department at (562) 902-2385.

## Plans to Enhance Creek Park Advance

Creek Park is a favorite destination for many residents to stroll, jog, and relax. The City of La Mirada is preparing a Master Plan to improve Creek Park, which was built in the 1970's. The popular community park is in need of renovations, and the master plan includes improvements to bridge structures, lighting, walking paths and landscaping. Other opportunities to improve restrooms and re-naturalize the creek are also being considered.

The City Council reviewed a draft of the Creek Park Master Plan presented by RRM Design Group, which was contracted for the project, in February. The draft was developed after receiving extensive public input gathered by RRM from public workshops, social media, and visits with residents of the neighborhoods near the park.

The first workshop held at Creek Park in August encouraged park visitors to provide feedback on concepts and amenities desired for the project. A second workshop, held in November at the La Mirada Resource Center, provided residents the opportunity to review preliminary design concepts based on data collected from the previous workshop. RRM Design Group also developed feasibility studies for the removal of check dams and concrete channels by use of more natural methods to control storm water flow and proposed design concepts for new bridge improvements. The firm continues to prepare environmental reports for the proposed concept.

Possible improvements include terraced seating along the creek, pollinator gardens on either side of the park, fitness stations made of natural materials, and play nodes for park visitors to enjoy. Improvements to the bridges include use of natural material such as wood and stone to enhance the aesthetics of the creek. The final Master Plan is expected to be approved by summer.

"Parks, trails, and open space add to the quality of life in La Mirada," says City Manager Jeff Boynton. "Creek Park is an exceptional amenity and the goal of this project is to ensure it remains a quality park for residents to enjoy for many years to come."

For additional information on the Creek Park Master Plan, contact the City's Public Works Department at (562) 902-2385.





Alondra Blvd./La Mirada Blvd. Intersection Improvements

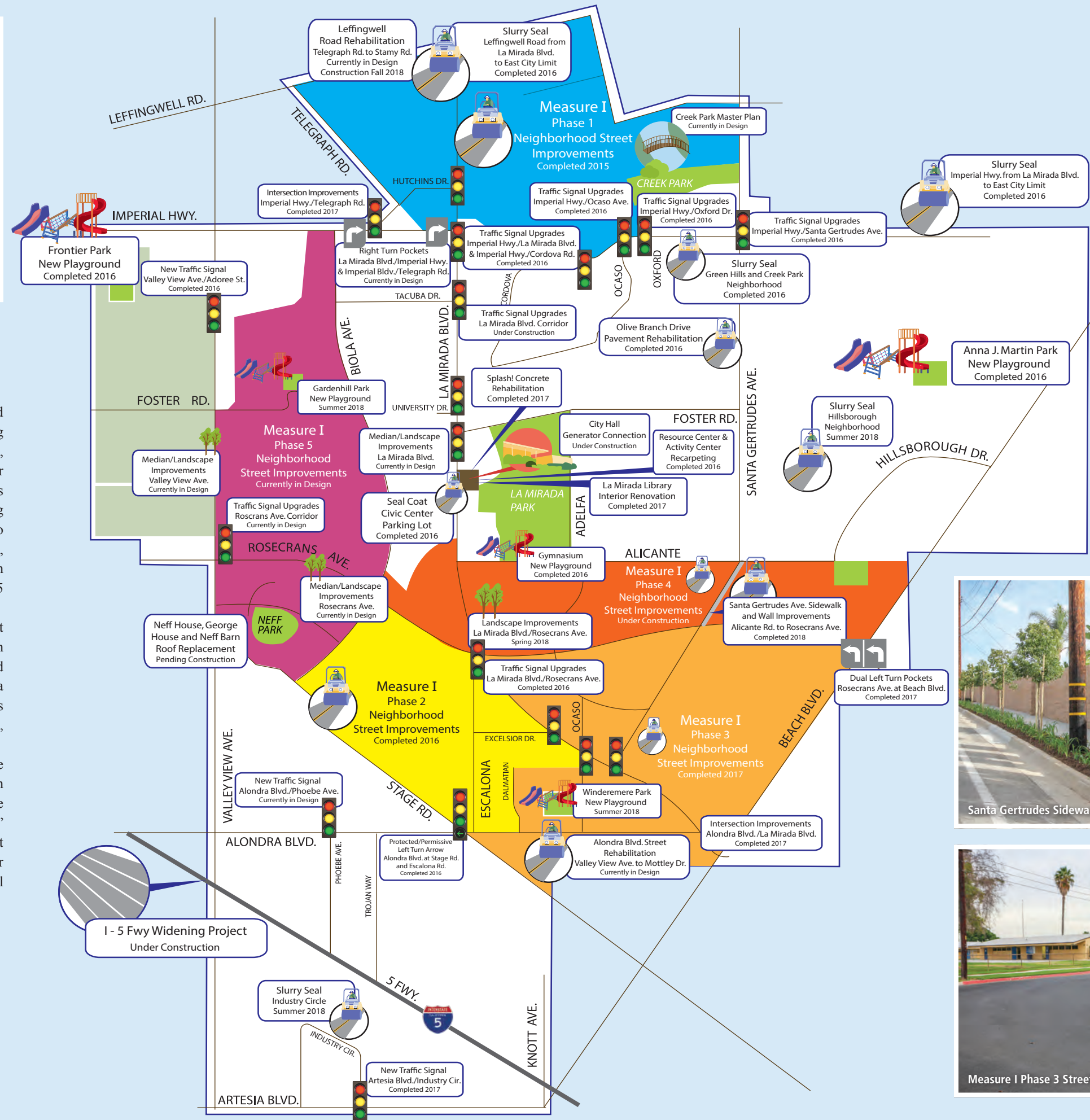
## Capital Improvements Continue in 2018

The City of La Mirada has made significant efforts and investments in improving the local infrastructure. Preserving an attractive community through well-maintained streets, sidewalks, landscaping, parks, public buildings, and other infrastructure items, remains a top priority. A variety of projects are currently underway and several more will be starting soon. Voter-approved Measure I funds have been dedicated to neighborhood street improvements in recent years. Phases 1, 2, and 3, of the Neighborhood Street Improvements have been completed. Phase 4 is currently under construction, and Phase 5 is being designed.

Upcoming projects include replacing neighborhood street signs, upgrading traffic signals, and planting new median landscaping along Valley View Avenue, Rosecrans Avenue, and La Mirada Boulevard. The City of La Mirada is also working on a Master Plan to improve Creek Park. The plan includes renovations to improve bridge structures, replace restrooms, increase lighting, enhance accessibility, and re-naturalize the creek.

“Maintaining an attractive community through infrastructure improvements is one of the many ways the City provides a high quality of life,” says Public Works Director Mark Stowell. “We appreciate everyone’s patience during the construction process.”

The accompanying map illustrates a selection of projects that were recently completed, are currently under construction, or will begin soon. For additional information on the City’s capital improvements, contact Public Works at (562) 902-2385.



Santa Gertrudes Sidewalk and Wall Improvements



Measure I Phase 3 Street Improvements

# Public Safety is Everyone's Business



*La Mirada*

CITY OF LA MIRADA • LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF • LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

### La Mirada Remains Among Region's Safest Cities

According to a recent crime analysis of surrounding communities in southeast Los Angeles County and northern Orange County, La Mirada experienced the lowest number of major crimes last year. Some 199 crimes were reported last year per 10,000 La Mirada residents, while the national benchmark is 300 crimes per 10,000 residents. Overall, there were 998 Part 1 crimes reported in La Mirada in 2017. Part 1 crimes include homicide, rape, larceny, burglary, automobile theft, robbery, assault, and arson. This was a slight increase over 2016, which is attributable to additional property crimes including larcenies and vehicle thefts. Of the 998 Part 1 crimes reported in 2017, 895 were crimes involving stolen property. This accounts for nearly 90 percent of Part 1 crimes reported. Many of these cases were crimes of opportunity, where valuables were left in plain view.

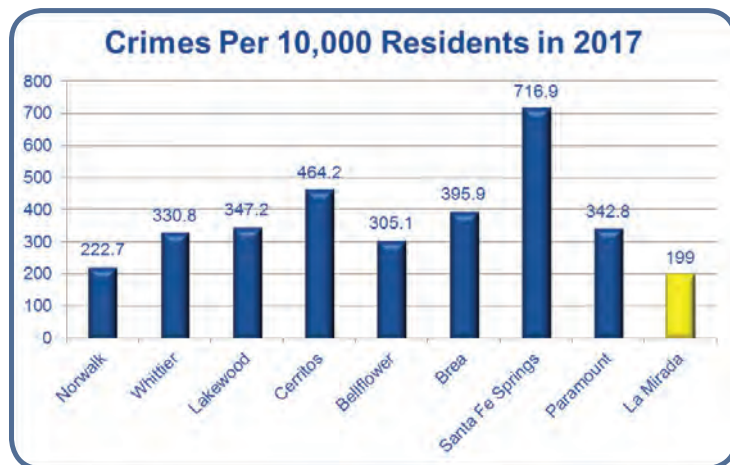
"While crime remains low in La Mirada, residents are reminded to guard against property-related crimes," says Safety Education Officer Mary Cipres. "Opportunity thefts are among the most preventable crimes that occur. Don't leave valuables unattended, even for short periods of time."

Preventing crime is a community effort. The City encourages all residents and business owners to participate in the Neighborhood Watch or Business Watch programs and report suspicious activity to the Public Safety Team. Community involvement is a key component of keeping the City safe.

"The Public Safety Team will continue to monitor local crime trends and maintain the City's low crime rate through proactive prevention efforts," says Lieutenant Jeff Dusky. "The Public Safety Team will work cooperatively with other agencies to hold offenders accountable."

The City will continue its efforts to identify at-risk youth and offer intervention, education, and prevention resources. Successful programs like Positive Alternatives and the Prevention and Intervention (PIP) will also continue to be offered at La Mirada schools. These programs provide valuable resources to students, parents, and school administrators.

For additional information on the annual crime report and the City's crime prevention efforts, contact the La Mirada Community Sheriff's Station at (562) 902-2960.



## Get Prepared with C.E.R.T. Training

The next Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training will be held on April 24, 26, and May 1, 3 from 6 to 10 p.m. and May 5 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the La Mirada Resource Center. The CERT program is an all-hazard training offered by the Los Angeles County Fire Department.

This valuable course is designed to help protect yourself, your family, your neighbors, and your neighborhood in a disaster or emergency. Lessons will include Fire Safety, Hazardous Material and Terrorist Incidents, Disaster Medical Operations, and Search and Rescue.

Sign up today at the La Mirada Resource Center, Activity Center, or Gymnasium to reserve your place! Space is limited.

For additional information, contact the La Mirada Community Sheriff's Station at (562) 902-2960.

## Public Safety Commission Improves Traffic Safety

The La Mirada Public Safety Commission studies, reviews reports, holds hearings, and makes recommendations to the City Council on matters relating to public safety. Major areas of responsibility include items of traffic safety relating to motorist and pedestrian control. During the last year, the Commission reviewed a number of key studies. Many of the Commission's recommendations have been approved, and several notable traffic enhancements have been completed or are underway.

- Traffic signal modifications were made at the intersection of La Mirada Boulevard and Alondra Boulevard. The island at the northwest corner was removed and a new curb return was installed along with a new traffic signal pole. The median nose was reduced to ease the turn movement for eastbound Alondra Boulevard to northbound La Mirada Boulevard.
- A crosswalk was installed at the intersection of Los Coyotes Avenue and Granada Avenue with an accessible curb ramp to be completed in the coming months.
- Parking was prohibited along the La Mirada service road between Tacuba Drive and Valeda Drive, and along the east side of Edwards Road south of Imperial Highway.
- An ordinance regulating the parking of nonconforming vehicles on City streets was adopted. This ordinance prohibits vehicles measuring more than eight feet in width; or seven and one-half feet in height; or twenty feet in length from parking on public streets.

Residents are invited to attend Public Safety Commission meetings, which are held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

To submit requests for traffic studies to the Public Safety Commission, contact the La Mirada Community Sheriff's Station at (562) 902-2966.

## Report Graffiti Vandalism

Graffiti vandalism or tagging is a community problem that can lower property values and lead to other types of crime. The Public Safety Team is requesting assistance to help reduce graffiti vandalism in the community.

If you notice graffiti in your neighborhood, call the Graffiti Removal Hotline at (562) 943-1557 or (714) 522-5858 or report it on the My La Mirada app. If the graffiti is located on public property, it will generally be removed within 24 hours. If the graffiti is located on private property, the Code Enforcement Division will notify private property owners and request it to be removed.

If you see vandalism in progress, call 9-1-1 to report it. Be a good witness and gather as much information as possible. Never put yourself in danger by intervening with a crime in progress. The City offers a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the identity, arrest, and conviction of a graffiti vandal.

For additional information, contact the La Mirada Community Sheriff's Station at (562) 902-2960.

## Norwalk Station Available as Meeting Place for Online Purchases

Buying and selling items online has become very popular. However, as more people use online apps to purchase and sell items, the risk of scams and robberies has increased. Meeting a complete stranger to exchange money for items poses some inherent risks. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is offering the use of its station parking lots as safe options to meet for these transactions. La Mirada residents may use the Norwalk Sheriff's Station parking lot located at 12335 Civic Center Drive.

In addition to meeting at a public location such as Norwalk Sheriff's Station, follow the tips below to enhance your safety:

- Meet at a reasonable time of day, preferably during daylight.
- Do not meet alone or with children present. Have an adult accompany you.
- Avoid meeting at your home. If you must, due to the size of an item, consider placing the item in the garage or on the porch/entryway.
- If you agree to meet at a neutral location, consider a well-lit public area and possibly video surveillance cameras.
- If the other party is not willing to meet you in a place you feel safe, do not meet.
- Inspect the items and be sure you are getting what you paid for. It is okay to change your mind and not purchase the items. If a deal seems too good to be true, it usually is.
- Contact the Public Safety Team if you think something is stolen. Many stolen items are sold online.

If you have been a victim of a scam or have additional questions, contact the La Mirada Community Sheriff's Station at (562) 902-2960.



**La Mirada City Council**  
Ed Eng, Mayor  
Lawrence P. Mowles, Mayor Pro Tem  
Steve De Ruse, Councilmember  
John Lewis, Councilmember  
Andrew Sarega, Councilmember

**Postal Customer**  
**La Mirada, CA 90638**

PRSTRT STD  
ecrwss  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Whittier, CA  
Permit No. 2452

## SUMMER PROGRAMS



The Tiny Tots program is designed to engage children through activities, active play, and socialization. This class is a fun-filled experience geared towards preparing students for kindergarten while encouraging language skills, motor development, and play. Students will learn through games, stories, crafts, and physical fitness. Classes begin on the first week of every month. For additional information, contact Community Services at (562) 943-7277.



Registration for La Mirada's Summer Day Camp and Teen Camp is now open. Give your child a summer they will never forget! Camps will be held at Neff Park weekdays starting on June 11 through August 15, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with optional extended hours beginning at 7 a.m. and ending at 6 p.m. Weekly registration includes one fun excursion! The camps offer a wide variety of activities, including academic enrichment projects, crafts, water play, cooking activities, sports, and more. For additional information, contact Community Services at (562) 943-7277.

**Get Your 2018 Buccaneer Bay  
Season Pass at the Best Price  
of the Year!**

**\$59**

Only 3 payments  
of \$19.66



**Pass Holder Preview Day May 20**



# LA MIRADA UPDATE

City of La Mirada Electronic Newsletter

Find us on



Visit the City's web site at [www.cityoflamirada.org](http://www.cityoflamirada.org) and sign up for La Mirada E-News.