

La Mirada
Living

OCTOBER 2020

**TRICK
OR
TREAT**
Drive-thru

SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 31
5 TO 7:30PM

LA MIRADA
CIVIC CENTER





Celebrate La Mirada's History

This year marks La Mirada's diamond anniversary!



Did you know?



First La Mirada City Council
(l-r): Gene Arant, Robert Walker, Jerome Resnick, Jack Clifford, Estelle Troup*

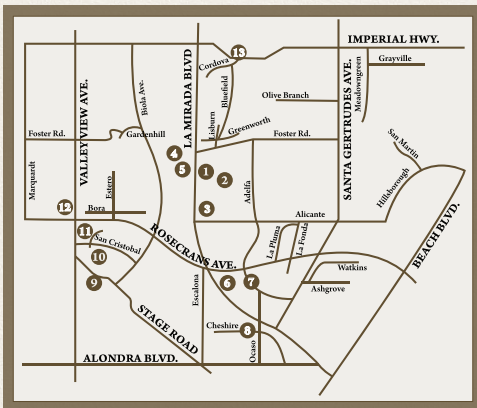
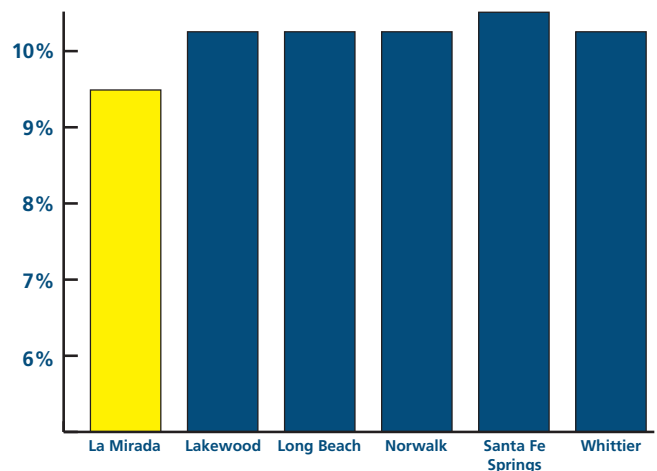
*Mr. Arant and Mr. Walker resigned at the first meeting, as they were no longer residents. They were replaced by James Jenkins and Richard Danson.

At the very first City Council meeting, the Councilmembers expressed interest in adopting a City seal to represent La Mirada. The City invited residents to submit proposals. Having received no suitable entries, the City Council directed the city administrator to solicit bids from professional artists for a design proposal.

In 1962, the La Mirada City Council selected the official City seal which is used to this day. The City seal includes a dove of peace to reflect La Mirada as a peaceful community and cogs encircling the dove to represent the City as progressive in business and industry.

Local Sales Tax Rate is Lowest in County

The City of La Mirada's sales tax rate is the lowest in Los Angeles County, a distinction it shares with about half of the county's 88 cities. Sales tax rates are actually the sum of several taxes, including those for transit and transportation and, recently, homelessness prevention. Most of the sales tax collected by local businesses goes to the State and County. Of the 9.5 cents generated by every dollar of taxable sales in La Mirada, only 1 cent is returned directly to the City of La Mirada. The sales tax rate adjusts when voters approve sales tax measures or previously approved measures expire. Voters in several cities have recently increased their sales tax rates to as high as 10.5%. These actions, combined with La Mirada's Measure 1 sales tax expiration in April 2018, have resulted in La Mirada's current lowest sales tax rate in Los Angeles County.



La Mirada History Tour Bicycle & Walking Guide

To commemorate the City's 60th anniversary, the La Mirada History Tour is now up to date for the community to learn about La Mirada's rich history. A brochure is available to guide residents to historic locations throughout La Mirada. New physical markers highlight points of interest with monuments and plaques. The La Mirada History Tour Guide features 13 landmarks and includes interesting historical facts and dates from La Mirada's past.

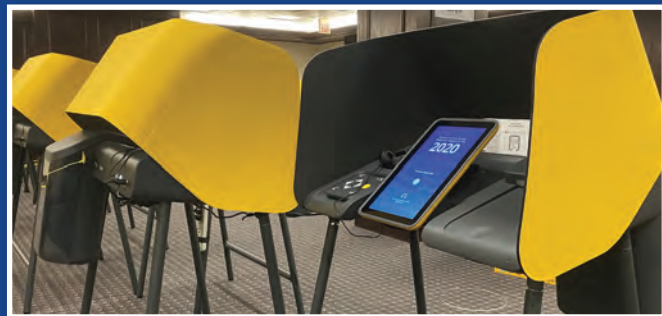
City of La Mirada COVID-19 Response Update

The City of La Mirada continues to monitor information about COVID-19 issued by the State of California and Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. The response to COVID-19 is ongoing and revisions to Public Health Officer Orders are being made regularly. The City will continue to adhere to guidance from the Department of Public Health to ensure it meets safety protocols to protect the public's health. Cloth face coverings are required to be worn while inside buildings and social distancing guidelines are also in place.

Regular City Hall hours and services returned in June. Residents may continue to visit City Hall to receive information, apply for passports, permits and business licenses, and pay citations and service fees. Many of these services may also be completed on-line, and all planning submittals and building permits will be transacted digitally.

The Community Sheriff's Station and Public Works offices are also open, as is Splash! La Mirada Regional Aquatics Center. Reservations must be made in advance for lap swim, recreational swim, and water exercise at splashlamirada.com. All City parks are available for passive recreation; however, playgrounds and restrooms are still closed based on State and County regulations.

The City appreciates your patience and understanding during these unprecedented times. For more information regarding the City's response to COVID-19, call City Hall at (562) 943-0131.



Voting Centers Return to La Mirada

Voting centers are returning to La Mirada for the Presidential Election to be held on November 3. Starting October 30 through November 2, the voting centers will be open from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm. On Election Day the voting centers will be open from 6:00 am to 9:00 pm.

The Voter Solutions for All People (VSAP) was developed by the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk to replace its aging voting system. The voting center allows voters the option of where, when, and how to vote. Voters will have the option to vote anywhere in Los Angeles County at vote centers. Voting center locations include the following facilities:

- **The Activity Center:** 13810 La Mirada Boulevard
- **La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts:** 14900 La Mirada Boulevard
- **Neff Barn:** 14300 San Cristobal Drive

A drop-off location will also be available at Gardenhill Park. For more information, visit cityoflamirada.org.

Stay Connected with My La Mirada App

The City of La Mirada encourages residents to stay connected with the *My La Mirada* smart phone app. *My La Mirada* is a service request system that enables residents to submit, track, and view service requests. Requests are delivered to designated City staff in real-time and are tracked from start to finish. Residents can submit a variety of service requests and report issues.

Users of the *My La Mirada* app have instant access to City information. The app also allows the City to communicate with residents during a disaster or crisis situation. *My La Mirada* can be downloaded on iPhone and android smartphones, and can also be accessed on the City's website.

For more information regarding *My La Mirada*, visit cityoflamirada.org.

Passport Services offered at City Hall

The La Mirada City Clerk's Office is designated as an authorized United States Passport Acceptance Facility. The services available for U.S. residents include forms for first time applicants and self-renewal by mail, expedited processing, and lost/stolen passport information. Hours of operation are by appointment only Monday through Thursday, excluding holidays.

For additional information on processing time and pricing, visit cityoflamirada.org. To schedule an appointment, call La Mirada City Hall at (562) 943-0131.



La Mirada Boulevard Median Landscape Improvements

Capital Improvements Continue throughout La Mirada

The City of La Mirada continues to allocate significant resources to improve the City's infrastructure. Preserving an attractive community through well-maintained streets, sidewalks, landscaping, lighting, and traffic signal improvements remains among the City's top priorities. Several capital improvement projects were completed in the past year and more are scheduled to begin construction later this year.

Median landscape improvements along La Mirada Boulevard and Rosecrans Avenue were completed earlier this year. Improvements were made to enhance the aesthetic appeal of the roadways, while reducing water use. The work included installation of a new irrigation system, new cobblestone along the median noses, and the planting of drought tolerant landscaping and trees. Traffic signal safety improvements were also completed along Rosecrans Avenue.

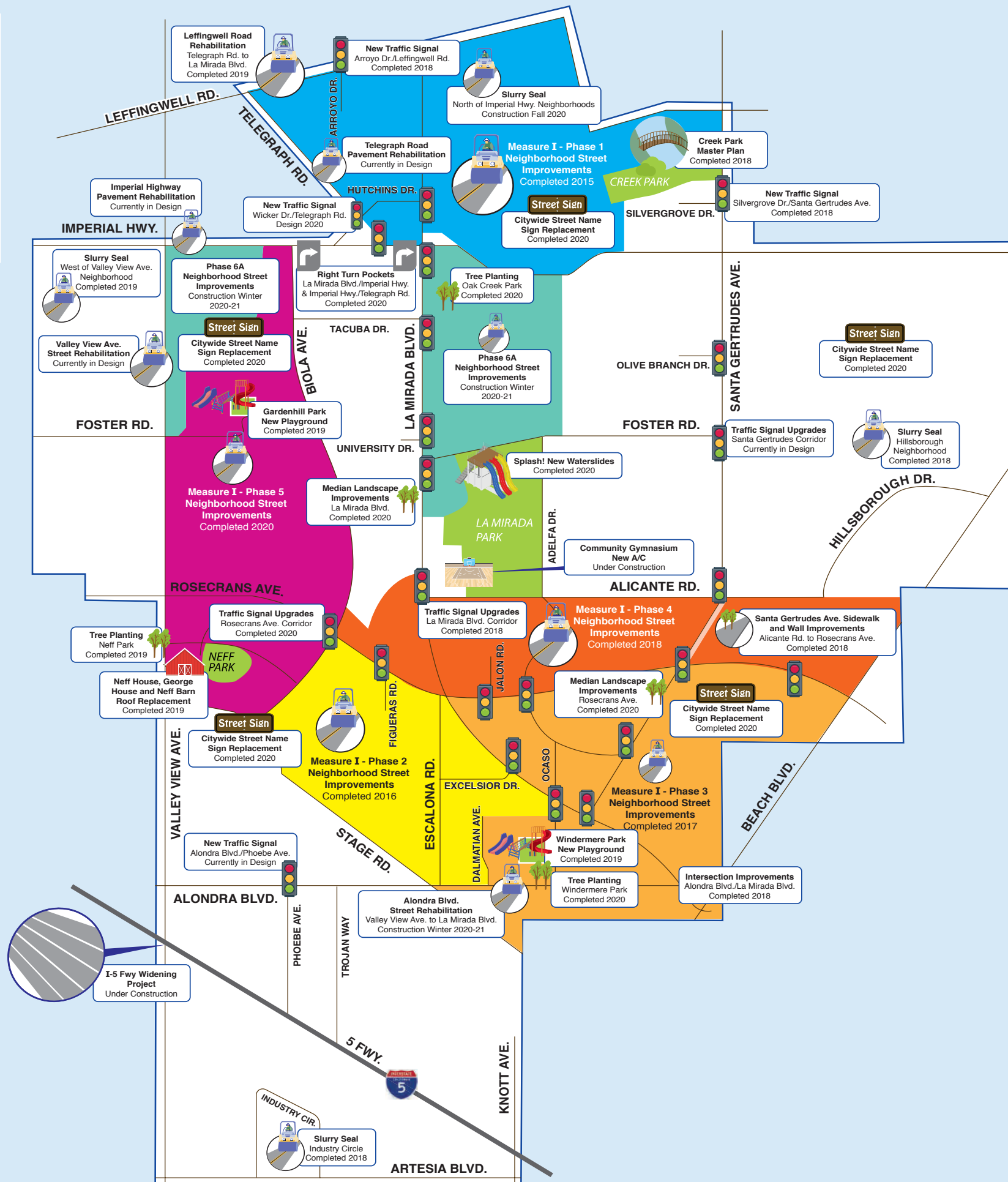
Construction of dedicated right turn lanes from northbound La Mirada Boulevard to eastbound Imperial Highway and westbound Imperial Highway to northbound Telegraph Road were also completed. Neighborhood street name signs were replaced citywide. At Splash!, a new six-lane mat racer slide and two aqua tube body slides were also recently finished.

Construction is currently underway for facility improvements at the Community Gymnasium. The improvements include installation of a heating, ventilation and air conditioning system to supply the gymnasium floor area with air conditioning and heating.

Additional upcoming projects include residential street rehabilitation and slurry seal projects.

"Rehabilitating neighborhood streets and upgrading infrastructure enhances the quality of life in La Mirada," says Public Works Director Mark Stowell. "We appreciate everyone's patience during construction of these projects."

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



Traffic Signal Improvements



Neighborhood Street Rehabilitation



Splash! Waterslide Construction



Temporary Outdoor Services Approved

The City of La Mirada has established an Emergency Temporary Dining Program (ETODP) to provide existing dine-in restaurants with an opportunity to increase seating capacity during COVID-19 social distancing measures. A similar program was also recently approved for gyms, hair salons and barber shops, personal care establishments and places of worship.

While some businesses already provide outdoor services, these programs allow all dine-in restaurant operators to temporarily provide supplemental seating outside on adjacent sidewalks, walkways, and parking lots. These new programs will be in effect for as long as the County of Los Angeles Department of Health requires implementation of social distancing and other guidelines in response to COVID-19. In order to participate in the programs, restaurants and other businesses must complete a registration form available on the City's website. There is no fee for this program with the exception of any building permits for large temporary structures.

LA MIRADA TRANSIT



La Mirada Transit Makes Traveling Easier

Did you know the City of La Mirada offers low cost transit services? La Mirada Transit is a curb to-curb shared ride transportation service available to the general public. The City contracts with MV Transportation, Inc. to provide affordable bus transit services to locations within La Mirada city limits, Westridge Plaza in La Habra, and up to one mile outside La Mirada city limits for medical appointments.

For additional transit information, including fare prices, contact La Mirada Transit at (562) 943-6776.



I-5/Valley View Avenue Interchange Project

The Valley View Avenue Interchange Project continues to make progress. Construction of the I-5 widening through La Mirada is about 66 percent complete according to CalTrans. Lanes have been kept open on the Valley View Avenue bridge during construction. A second southbound lane on the bridge opened last month. The second half of the bridge is set to be completed in about two years. The Valley View exit from southbound I-5 is also operational with a new traffic signal. Updates on the project are available at My5LA.com or [@My5LA](https://twitter.com/My5LA).

Pet Adoption and Reclaiming Lost Pets

The Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC) has implemented operational changes due to the outbreak of COVID-19 and the need for social distancing.

The modifications include closing all animal care centers to the public and moving to appointments only, using new parameters for animal intake, and limiting field services to emergencies only.

“Animal control officers continue to respond to public safety and animal welfare calls such as dangerous dogs, sick/ill animals, and requests to remove deceased animals in the public right-of-way,” says Senior Administrative Analyst Mark Rounds.

At the care centers, pet adoptions and reunions with lost pets are now scheduled by appointment and customer service areas are marked to ensure physical distancing. Face coverings are required for all visitors and staff.

In order to maintain social distancing, DACC has implemented a drive-through fostering system where volunteers can apply and receive training remotely and pick up a foster animal without leaving their car or having close extended contact with staff.

To schedule an appointment to visit the Downey Animal Care Center or to receive additional information on fostering an animal, visit the DACC website at animalcare.lacounty.gov.

Internet Safety for Kids

The La Mirada Public Safety Team reminds parents about the importance of internet safety. With mandated online learning and playdates via video chat, it is important for parents to be aware of online risks and understand how to help their children avoid them.

“Stay up-to-date on the latest technologies, apps and social media trends,” says Safety Education Officer Mary Cipres. “Teaching your children about online risks, setting rules, and encouraging them to report threats are the most important steps you can take to ensure their safety online.”

Educate yourself regarding the online dangers and discuss them with your children. Topics to learn more about include dangerous and inappropriate websites, malware and how it can be downloaded onto computers and telephones, online frauds and scams, and sexual predators.

Set clearly defined rules for children to use the internet. Advise them to never divulge personal information or post a photograph on a public site, do not chat with strangers, or open an email from somebody they don't know, and report inappropriate messages.

For additional information, contact Safety Education Officer Mary Cipres at (562) 902-2986.

Be Prepared for Disasters

Emergencies or disasters can happen anywhere at anytime. Recent earthquake activity is a good reminder that being properly prepared is essential to being able to respond to a disaster situation.

Now is also a good time to teach children about the importance of preparing for an emergency. Parents are encouraged to take the following actions to prepare their children for an emergency:

- Teach your child when and how to call important phone numbers, like 911, for help and how to send text messages in case of an emergency.
- Learn different ways to help your child cope during and after an emergency.
- Know the emergency plan for your child's school and childcare facility, if open, and practice it with your child.
- Create an emergency plan and practice it regularly.
- Build an emergency kit with your child that includes essential items such as water, non-perishable food items, first aid supplies, prescription medicines, and other items that will ensure safety and comfort.
- Review your emergency communications plan and keep the information in a safe place like a backpack, wallet, or taped in a notebook.

Get your children involved in your preparedness efforts and keep them informed about how to be prepared for emergency and disaster situations.

For more information on how to prepare your child for an emergency, visit <https://www.ready.gov/kids>.



Join Virtual Neighborhood Watch Meetings

The La Mirada Public Safety Team is hosting virtual Neighborhood Watch meetings.

During the last several months, Safety Education Officer Mary Cipres and members of the Public Safety Team have used video conferencing technology to educate residents on crime trends, crime prevention techniques, reporting suspicious activity, and ways to enhance neighborhood safety.

“The virtual Neighborhood Watch meeting format allows residents to stay up-to-date on what's happening in their neighborhoods and to share any concerns or questions they may have,” says Safety Education Officer Mary Cipres.

If you are interested in organizing a virtual Neighborhood Watch meeting for your neighborhood, contact Safety Education Officer Mary Cipres at (562) 902-2986 or email mcipres@cityoflamirada.org.



La Mirada City Council
John Lewis, Mayor
Ed Eng, Mayor Pro Tem
Steve De Ruse, Councilmember
Anthony Otero, Councilmember
Andrew Sarega, Councilmember

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COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & EVENTS

TRICK OR TREAT Drive-thru

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31
5 TO 7:30PM
LA MIRADA CIVIC CENTER

Join La Mirada's Trick or Treat Drive-Thru on Saturday, October 31. The event will be held from 5-7:30 p.m. in the La Mirada Civic Center parking lot.

Families are invited to dress up in their costumes and participate in a drive-thru event in the La Mirada Civic Center parking lot where families can visit stations from their vehicles and receive candy in a safe and fun way. Vehicle decorations are also encouraged! Take-home craft kits are also available.

For additional information, call (562) 943-7277.

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

Monday through Friday
2-5 p.m.

Park Locations:
Frontier • Gardenhill • Winderemere



Register today!
\$30 per week

For more information call (562) 943-7277 or visit cityoflamirada.org.

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

The City of La Mirada and EDCO Disposal are sponsoring a free mulch distribution event for La Mirada residents only on Saturday, October 24 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the parking lot of the La Mirada Community Gymnasium, 15105 Alicante Road. This is a self-serve, self-loading service, and residents must bring their own cans/bags and shovel. There will be a limit of three cans/ bags per vehicle.

Certified shredding trucks will be present during the event to shred personal documents, and all items will be shredded on site. Quantities are limited to three bankers' boxes (10"x12"x15") per household. Unwanted electronics waste (e-waste) will also be collected. Proof of residency will be required (i.e. CA Driver's License or utility bill).

Residents are asked to enter the Community Gymnasium parking lot from Alicante Road. Safety measures, including social distancing and wearing of masks, will be observed. For additional information, contact the Public Works Department at (562) 902-2385.

SALUTE TO VETERANS



City of La Mirada Honors Veterans

Community members are invited to a special ceremony honoring local Veterans on Wednesday, November 11, at 11 a.m. at the Civic Center Plaza. This free event is open to all ages and will recognize the courageous men and women who have served in the armed forces throughout this nation's history, along with special recognition of La Mirada service members.

Safety measures including social distancing and wearing of masks will be observed.

For more information, contact the Community Services Department at (562) 943-7277.