

We Create Community



Parks, Recreation & Marine Year In Review

The past year is not one that many would want to repeat, but it was one that demonstrated the dedication and creativity of Parks, Recreation & Marine (PRM) like never before. Here is a look back at 2020 and some of the many ways that PRM served the community during an unprecedented time.

Public Safety

Maintenance staff completed 1,899 park inspections to assess the safety of facilities, equipment and amenities.



PRM Community Ambassador Program

In collaboration with the Health Department of Health and Human Services, 24-hour a day, seven day a week Mass Care Shelters for Persons Experiencing Homelessness were opened at King and Silverado Parks in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Community Recreation Services (CRS) Bureau staff were assigned to the City Emergency Operations

Center to coordinate the mass feeding of first responders and City staff that were responding to the COVID – 19 pandemic.



CRS staff operated a Donation Hub at Chavez Park in support of the mass care shelters and assisted in the operations of Project Room Key at the Holiday Inn.

PRM implemented the Community Ambassador Program to provide a positive presence in public spaces, including education on practicing COVID-19 preventative measures and reinforcing that behavior, collecting observational data, and assist with minor upkeep of open spaces.

Continued 24-hour a day, seven day a week service to Long Beach Marinas customers throughout the pandemic.



Jenni Rivera Playground

Provided many commercial partners and restaurants in the marinas with financial resources and business opportunities to thrive in a COVID-19 economy.



Successfully responded to beach, playground, fitness equipment COVID-19 closures.

Homelessness

Park Maintenance staff competed 250 park homeless outreach and camp clean-ups.

Innovation and Efficiency

Maintenance Operations staff helped to develop and test the new Go Long Beach app to streamline casework and promote communications between citizens and City.



Park irrigation controllers were upgraded to a centrally managed computerized system which allows more

continued on page 2



*Brent Dennis, Director,
Long Beach Parks,
Recreation & Marine*

December 2020 is going to close out as the most unusual year we have endured! During so many unexpected, unique challenges, I have been very impressed with the creativity and innovation that our Parks, Recreation, Marine and Animal Care Services team has exhibited. The terms “reimagine” and “reimagined” have become some of our common new action verbs and descriptive adjectives during the pandemic as we have jumped onto the innovation

highway to envision and plan new programs. I am very pleased with the response to our CARES Act-funded Mobile RECess, virtual programming, and community learning hubs over the past several months.

Our parks and beach maintenance teams have done a stellar job in keeping these essential public recreational areas clean and welcoming as autumn turns to winter. And another loud “shout out” to the Marine Bureau team who installed the popular holiday display of Trees in the Bay as the community greatly enjoys the positive energy those illuminated trees emit!

I enjoy the heart-warming reminder of the importance of Animal Care Services when an animal is connected to a new loving home as scores of those adoptions occur each passing month.

Groundbreaking and ribbon cutting events have become virtual celebrations this year and will continue as 2021 is ushered in the new year as part of our new normal. As we reflect over 2020, amidst the crazy COVID-caused changes in Parks, Recreation, Marine and Animal Care Services, we are still grounded in the comfort of serving people. Our department's connection to the community throughout Long Beach will help us all get through this together.

As January 5th will mark my 6th month anniversary of joining our team, I am still motivated every day by all our team members, community partners, volunteers and neighborhood residents who love and cherish their parks, recreational facilities, beaches, marinas and animal care services. 2021 is going to bring us unexpected opportunities to touch people's lives in important ways. From ALL of us at Long Beach Parks, Recreation, Marine and Animal Care Services, we wish you and yours a safe, joyful and memorable holiday season!

PRM 2020 Year In Review

continued from page 1

than 160 controllers to be remotely accessed thereby allowing staff to access the park controllers in the field via tablets, locate broken components, and do irrigation system audits.

Technology

“2-wire” technology replaced older hydraulic irrigation systems to efficient electric systems at Cherry Park, M.L. King, Jr. Park and El Dorado Regional Park.

Parks & Open Space

Extensive plant and trail restoration was completed at both DeForest Wetlands and El Dorado Nature Center in partnership with the Conservation Corps of Long Beach.

Jenni Rivera Playground (2001 Walnut Ave.) opened in December 2019 made possible by \$250,000 Measure A Funds and \$10,000 in Council District 6 one-time funds.



K9 Corner Dog Park (906 Pacific Ave.) was renovated in with by \$27,000 from Council District 1 one-time funds.

The opening of the Houghton Park Sound Garden (6301 Myrtle Ave.) in April was funded by a \$100,000 investment from



the Long Beach Community Foundation.

The opening of Pike Park (195 W. Seaside Way) in February was made possible by a private developer.

The new Houghton Park Community Center (6301 Myrtle Ave.) opening in June and was made possible by \$5,741,896 Measure A Funds and \$4,482,612 from sources including FY14 one-time funds and LA County Grants.

The DeForest Park Vision Plan was adopted and made possible by partnerships with the Conservation Corps of Long Beach, Camp Fire Angeles, Council District 9, the DeForest Park Neighborhood Association and City Fabric.



Beaches, Waterways and Marinas

At Alamitos Bay all swim lines were replaced and the Leeway Sailing Center and restroom planters were beautified. Painting projects included new striping in the
continued on page 3

continued from page 2
boat owner parking lots and back flows in Basin 1, 2, and 3.

Improvements in the Shoreline Marina area included rehabilitating the fishing pier along mole road, installing paper towel/and trash receptacles inside boat owner's restrooms, removing booster pumps and concrete pads for a fire



suppression system upgrade and upgrading boat owner restroom doors at 6 South, D-3, D-4 and D-7 with high security metal doors. The exterior fence and gate was replaced at D-7 and the public restroom and pipe chase lock replaced with a higher security keyway.



At Rainbow Harbor, the electrical pedestal was replaced and an air pump was installed to provide cleaner water and better marine habitat. The area has new rub rail in throughout 90 percent of the area.

At Queensway Bay the Aquarium of the Pacific Wave Fountain air compressor, motors and VFD (variable frequency drive) were replaced. The Pier J bike path landscape project was completed.



Aerial view, Drake Chavez expansion project

In other marina areas repairs were made to manhole covers and stairs in the Peninsula, the South Shore parking lot was stenciled with ADA markings and Mother's Beach received some new landscaping.



Financial Matters

PRM was awarded \$40,000 from the Long Beach Navy Memorial Heritage Association for development of restoration plans for the Houghton Park Clubhouse.

Port of Long Beach Community Grants were received totaling \$2.97 million for landscape and irrigation for the 51st St. Greenbelt (\$999,115), Drake Chavez Expansion (\$991,100) and the Lincoln Park (\$981,280) Projects.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant through the National Park Service Grant awarded \$2.01 million for development of Davenport Park Expansion

A total of \$500,000 was received from a private donor to develop the new playground at Channel View Park.

A contract was established with Wheel Fun Rentals to introduce Swan Pedal Boats at Rainbow Lagoon.

Healthy Communities

More than 70,000 meals were provided to older adults at seven park community centers to provide much needed nutrition in a safe environment during the pandemic.



More than 80,000 meals were served to youth ages 1-18 through the USDA Summer Food Service program at 34 sites including 31 parks, two non-profit organizations and one City of Signal Hill site.

Prior to COVID-19, PRM's Citywide Youth Sports Program had 130 basketball teams, each with an average of 8-10 players, or approximately 1,300 youth players.

Over 35,000 lap swimmers and 12,400 water exercise participants visited our



three community pools. This includes over 21,000 lap swimmers and 8,000 water exercise participants during the Covid-19 Pandemic, providing an essential and safe way to get exercise.

Community Improvements

Three Youth Community Forums and an on-line survey were conducted in collaboration with the Department of Health and Human Services. The findings helped to inform the City's first Youth Strategic Plan.



Sustainability

Maintenance staff planted more than 100 trees in parks.

A Hydraulic Pump Pilot Study for sand re-nourishment along Peninsula Beach was completed.

Other Good Things

PRM generated \$5.43 million in revenue through partnerships in FY20.

A partnership the with Conservation Corp Long

continued on page 4

continued from page 3

Beach at Willow Spring Park to maintain and operate the park is providing valuable job training for at-risk youth.

PRM has partnered with Adventures to Dreams Enrichment Inc., at the Drake Chavez Greenbelt to begin pre-construction for a youth and family educational garden.

Right of Entry permits were issued to groups to enhance DeForest Park and Wetlands. The Conservation Corps Long Beach (CCLB) is constructing an Environmental Stewardship Center for a base of operations for work along the Lower Los Angeles River, stewardship of the park and wetlands, training space for the CCLB, and community rooms. Camp Fire Los Angeles is constructing Discovery Trails to enhance the experience of DeForest Park visitors and those participating in the Camp Fire programming.

A Parks Mural Toolkit was created to help residents with the process of proposing public murals with PRM staff. The Toolkit outlines processes and ensures that murals are installed in areas that are publicly accessible and visible.



In partnership with the Dodgers RBI Foundation a Dodger Day Drive Thru event was hosted where participants received free



In-Person After School programs

food boxes, educational and hygiene resources, and recreational equipment.

PRM reconfigured in-person youth programs including a Day Camp program at 22 parks for ages 5 – 12, four sessions of El Dorado Nature Center camps for ages 5 – 8, and four sessions of the Nature Detective Afterschool Camps for youth ages 5 – 10. All programs were conducted with safety protocols.



A Virtual Day Camp provided staff-led and “grab and go” style activities for youth ages 5 –12 to participate from the comfort of their own homes.

The Annual Coastal Clean Up event in September was modified to a month-long campaign to “Protect Your Happy Place” encouraging LB residents clean up neighborhoods with their household members.

A total of 21 Afterschool Camps for in-person activities for youth ages 5 – 12 are being offered with safety protocols.

A Virtual Out-of-School Program is offering homework assistance, staff led enrichment and physical activities to youth ages 5 – 14 from the comfort of their own homes.

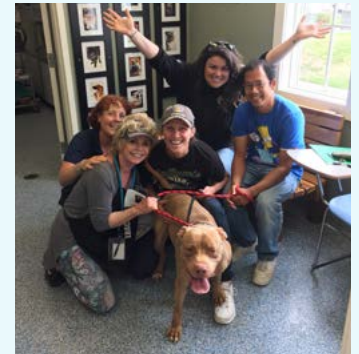
PRM opened four Community Learning Hubs for Long Beach Unified School District students ages 5–14 to attend on-line school day in a safe environment with staff supervision.



PRM launched Mobile Recess Program to offer safe recreational programs to youth ages 5 – 14 in “park pool” neighborhoods.

Long Beach Animal Care Services (LBACS) reports that in 2020, the save rate for

both cats and dogs was 98 percent. The live release was 91.55 percent. LBACS also reports reduced intake from



5,355 dogs and cats in FY 18/19 to 3,659 in FY 19/20.

The Mayor’s Animal Care Visioning Task Force completed a proposed strategic plan to ensure these excellent outcomes for the future: Working with Live Love Animal Rescue, Little Lion Foundation, and Helen Sanders Cat PAWS, reduced shelter population



to under 10 animals in three days, maintaining a low shelter population of under 20 animals for over 90 days in response to the initial phases of the global pandemic. Over 400 animals were impacted by LBACS foster to adopt and these rescue partner’s efforts.

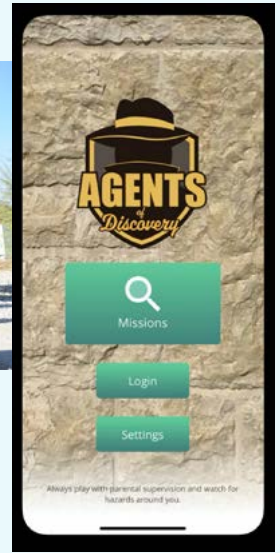
The Marine Bureau created a public service announcement produced on beach cleaning with Long Beach Television.

The Bureau also introduced a digital bi-monthly version of the Marina Reader newsletter.

Agents of Discovery Program Receives Grant



Explore Willow Springs Park, DeForest Wetlands and MacArthur park with the Agents of Discovery exploration app!



Parks, Recreation and Marine secured a grant from Southern California Edison for the Agents of Discovery exploration app at Willow Springs Park, DeForest Wetlands and MacArthur Park. The grant will support continued augmented reality

challenges through the app at Willow Springs and DeForest Parks and funds a new location at MacArthur Park to feature murals and artists, and support the 2019 MacArthur Park Master Plan.

Great Holiday Gift Ideas From Parks, Recreation & Marine



Looking for a holiday gift this year? Give the gift of the outdoors. El Dorado Nature Center and Regional Park annual parking passes. \$65 Regular, or \$40 Senior/Disabled. Gift Certificates available. Purchase at the Nature Center Tuesday-Sunday 8:30am-4pm.



Home for the Pawlidays

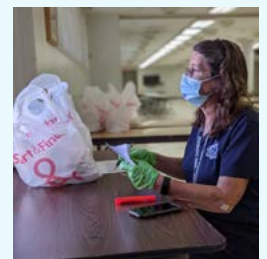
HELP US SEND OUR FURRY FRIENDS HOME THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

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Like us on Instagram: [instagram.com/longbeachparks_rec](https://www.instagram.com/longbeachparks_rec)

Long Beach Senior Center Thanksgiving Event



PRM Recreation Leader Harlon Williams in the kitchen, large photo, far right, along with staff, spent over two days preparing turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, stuffing, sweet potatoes, green beans, cranberry sauce, rolls and pie. The entire senior center team worked together to package the meals and distribute them safely to the seniors.

Thanks to donations from the Los Altos Church of Christ, Long Beach Gray Panthers and The Heart of Ida, Long Beach Senior Center staff served hot traditional Thanksgiving meals to over 130 seniors.

Recreation Leader Harlon Williams lead the effort by spending over two days preparing the turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, stuffing, sweet potatoes, green beans, cranberry sauce, rolls and a slice of pie. The entire Senior Center team worked to put all the meals together and hand them out safely to the seniors.

The seniors were very excited to have an opportunity to get a hot meal and left with big smiles and even some happy tears.

New Mural Honors Centenarians



Recently dedicated mural at Pan American Park, *The Stages:100 Over 100* features 101 year- old Alta Regalado gracing the park's raquetball court.



A new mural that is part of SCAN Health Care's "Stages: 100 Over 100," campaign to raise awareness of older adults in our communities and break stereotypes associated with aging was dedicated on December 1 at Pan American Park. The mural was painted by artists Alva McNeal and Ciana Anita Kalokomaika'imaikalanimai Lee. The Arts Council of Long Beach was a co-sponsor.

She demonstrates that age is just number and not a barrier to living life to the fullest.

The mural features 101-year-old Folklórico dancer, Alta Regalado wearing a traditional Folklórico dress and is

She demonstrates that age is just number and not a barrier to living life to the fullest.

Maintenance Operations Bureau

Community Service Workers Program

Attendance figures for the month of November 2020

Number of persons enrolled in the program for November:.....	29
Number of hours worked at El Dorado Park areas:..... (Litter pickup, custodial and facility sites including Tree Farm and Night Crew)	305
Number of hours worked at Los Cerritos Wetlands:..... (Litter pickup and vegetation removal of Sims Pond, Golden Shore, Colorado Lagoon and other Various Wetlands)	264
Total number of CSW hours for the month of November:	569
Work orders completed:	522
Restrooms cleaned on a daily basis bureau wide:	172
Facilities and Gymnasiums cleaned and stocked daily:.....	28
Park acres maintained	
Park turf	814
Park landscape	2310
Water Use	
MOB General Fund Water report for November	
Parks Potable..... 39,728 ccf	\$141,999
Parks Reclaimed..... 43,090 ccf	\$95,595

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December Calendar of PRM Events

Fridays, ongoing	Infant and Toddler Supply distribution, Fri 3-5 p.m.	Cesar E. Chavez Park, El Dorado Park West, Houghton Park, Ernest McBride Park, Silverado Park
December 17 - January 15, 2021	Ed2Go computer classes begin	Online
December 18	Community Learning Hubs for youth	Houghton Park, McBride Park, Orizaba Park and Veterans Park
December 21-31	Winter Park Camps (Closed December 25)	Visit LBParks.org
December 22-24 & 29-31	El Dorado Nature Center Winter Break Workshops:	El Dorado Nature Center
December 22	Winter Break Workshop: Batty For Bats	El Dorado Nature Center
December 23	Winter Break Workshop: May I Burrow Your Den?	El Dorado Nature Center
December 24	Winter Break Workshop: Winter Wonders	El Dorado Nature Center
December 29	Winter Break Workshop: Wildlife Workbench	El Dorado Nature Center
December 30	Winter Break Workshop: By the Light of the Moon	El Dorado Nature Center
December 31	Winter Break Workshop: Tasty Tree-ts!	El Dorado Nature Center
January 2-31, 2021	Driver's Education courses	Online Calendar



Happy Holidays from Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine



Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine

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LONG BEACH



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