

HUNTINGTON PARK

California

CITY OF PERFECT BALANCE

SPRING 2014



City Manager's Message

I was moved by a recent article in the LA Times which told Carmen's story, a local mother from Bell Gardens and the daily grind that she and her two young children endure for better opportunities in school and work. During each 15-hour day, the family rides eight bus lines – including one through Huntington Park – to get to and from school and work in downtown Los Angeles.

Two things struck me about Carmen's story – the great determination and effort that people put forth every day to improve their lives, and the disappointing reality that many residents must leave our communities to find opportunities for better schools, jobs, and quality of life.

As a City, we constantly work to provide the services and resources that our residents need and deserve. This month, for instance, we will break ground on a new artificial turf soccer field at Salt Lake Park. Our new soccer fields will provide people of all ages with a first class sports facility that they can enjoy right in their own backyard.

We are also celebrating the grand opening of Mosaic Gardens in March. Mosaic Gardens is a new housing development built on the site of a former rundown motel complex and is a testament to the unique ways that we can improve our community when we have a shared vision.

Improving the educational opportunities for our children in Huntington Park is a steeper challenge. As a City, we have no control over our schools – that responsibility belongs to the LA Unified School District. True education reform will require parents to come together and demand change from LAUSD. However, we will continue to provide out of class time opportunities, such as free after school and recreation programs at our parks, to ensure that our children have healthy, fun, and safe places to excel here in Huntington Park.

Together with your City Council, we are working each day to create an environment where our businesses and residents can thrive. We have much more work ahead of us but if we face our challenges with the same determination of Carmen, we will make our community that much better.

René Bobadilla
City Manager



Parking Violators Getting a Break from Huntington Park

PARKING TICKET AMNESTY PROGRAM

Got some old parking citations in your glove box accumulating late fees? The City is offering a parking ticket amnesty program that will allow anyone with outstanding parking violations issued by the City to pay them off with no late fees. The program is open to anyone with unpaid parking tickets issued in Huntington Park since April 2009. However, the amnesty program is only open until April 1, 2014.

Delinquent parking tickets (i.e. tickets more than 30 days past-due) who do not take advantage of this amnesty program will be sent to a collection agency and will have their assessed late fees reinstated.

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“This is a great opportunity for anyone who received a parking ticket from us to clean it up and get it off their books and ours,” said City Manager René Bobadilla.

The City is offering several easy ways to pay for delinquent tickets during this amnesty period:

1. Online at www.huntingtonpark.org
2. By telephone (866) 470-3086
3. In-person at City Hall, 6550 Miles Ave., from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Mon-Thu.
4. By mail

For more information about the Parking Ticket Amnesty Program, please call the Finance Department at (323) 584-6277.

Spring Parks and Recreation Activities



Summer Camp Sign-Ups Start April 1

With summer just around the corner, it is time to register for summer fun. Boys and girls ages 6-12 years old are invited to join the City of Huntington Park's Summer Day Camp for six weeks of excitement. Camp will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday starting on June 30. Registration starts at Salt Lake Park on April 1.



Now Accepting Registration for Summer Classes

The Parks and Recreation Department is accepting registrations for summer classes. They include fitness classes (Zumba, Aerobics and Pilates), martial arts classes, music lessons (Guitar and Piano), dance lessons (Hip Hop, Folklorico, and Ballet), classes for toddlers (Pee Wee Sports, Wee Scientists, Mommy Daddy and Me Karate, Creative Little Hands and Start Right!) and special interest classes (Floral Arrangement and Jewelry Making). Visit www.huntingtonpark.org for more class information and how to enroll.



Girl's Basketball Sign-Ups Open Through April 10

Girl's basketball is a great way for 7-17 year olds to learn fundamental basketball skills such as shooting, dribbling, passing in an all-inclusive environment

and geared for all skill levels. Participants will also have the opportunity to learn life skills such as teamwork, responsibility, commitment and good sportsmanship. The deadline to register is April 10.



Tee Ball Sign-Ups Start April 28

Summer Tee Ball registrations start April 28 at Salt Lake Park. Open to 4-6 year olds, this program introduces baseball fundamentals such as throwing, fielding and hitting. Children will have an opportunity to build confidence and self-esteem, develop teamwork skills and begin an appreciation for physical activity.



Special Interest Instructors Wanted!

Do you have a unique talent or skill to share with others? The City of Huntington Park invites you to become a part of the Parks & Recreation Department by becoming a contract class instructor. We recruit instructors to teach a wide variety of classes that provide local residents

with positive recreation experiences, offers opportunities to learn new skills and encourage community involvement. For more information contact the Department of Parks and Recreation at (323) 584-6218.



Hold Your Next Event at a Park

The Parks and Recreation Department offers a wide selection of rooms and amenities for special events. Come reserve a room or park amenity for your next meeting, birthday party, anniversary, wedding or special event. The rooms range from halls, dance rooms, picnic areas, gazebos, batting cages and athletic fields all at affordable prices. Visit www.huntingtonpark.org for more information or call (323) 584-6218.



Join an Adult Sports League this Spring

Team registrations for co-ed and men's softball and men's basketball start this May. Get together with a group of friends and have fun competing in one of our many leagues including our 40 years and over basketball league and

upper division or lower division softball leagues. All leagues compete at Salt Lake Park. Softball league sign-ups start May 5 and basketball starts May 12. Visit our website or call (323) 584-6218 for more information.



Senior Casino Trips Set for March 27 and May 29

Looking to get away for a day of fun with your friends? Register for one of our upcoming senior casino trips. Trips are open to

seniors 50 years old and up and include San Manuel Indian Bingo and Casino (March 27) and to Valley View Casino (May 29). Register soon as space is limited!



Open Gym Held at Salt Lake Park

Do you want to play pick-up basketball or volleyball in our gym? Drop-in Volleyball and Basketball is held from 9-11:30 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday nights, at the Salt Lake Park gym. Teams are not necessary to participate - simply pay a \$2 facility fee and play the night away!



Zumbathon Fiesta! Fun Family Fitness Night

The Spot after-school program will host its Fun Family Fitness Night, Zumbathon Fiesta! on Friday, May 2 from 5-8 p.m. This event will feature prizes, stretching and two hours of non-stop Zumba for the whole family! Register at your school's parent center or through your local park. All proceeds will benefit the Department of Parks & Recreation Scholarship Fund.



City to Break Ground on Soccer Field April 26

Salt Lake Park's new artificial turf soccer field takes a step closer to reality with a Groundbreaking Ceremony to be held on Saturday, April 26. Funded through a partnership with the City of Vernon and County of Los Angeles, the Salt Lake Park soccer field will feature professional-level artificial turf to allow for year-round play. The field will be striped for both youth and adult play and will be open by summer. For more information about the groundbreaking festivities, visit www.huntingtonpark.org or call (323) 584-6218.



Trash RFP and Service Changes Coming This Summer

The City of Huntington Park has paved the way for a widely transparent and open public bidding process for waste collection services. This summer, the City will be accepting proposals from waste management firms to perform all of the City's residential and commercial trash collection. Your City Council and City staff have worked hard to create a highly transparent and equitable bidding process. A special City Council meeting was held in January where the public and potential bidders provided input about the types of services and terms that should be included in the contract.

"Our goal was to ensure a fair and transparent bidding process that will provide Huntington Park residents and business owners with the high quality trash collection service that they deserve," said City Manager René Bobadilla. "I'm proud of the work that we've done to reach that goal."

Follow the progress of our trash collection service bidding process online at www.huntingtonpark.org. Your questions and comments are also welcome at City Council meetings or by contacting the City Manager's Office at (323) 584-6223.



Mosaic Gardens Housing Complex Opens in March

Mosaic Gardens at Huntington Park, a model project that turned a rundown motel into a new residential living complex, opens in March. A Grand Opening Celebration will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 5 at 6337 Middleton St. Mosaic Gardens is the culmination of a major public-private partnership, in which the City and

LINC Housing worked together to take a vacant motel and build 24 affordable apartments for local families and transitional-aged-youth.

"This public-private partnership is a model for how we can come together to develop a community that not only serves the local residents but also contributes to the neighborhood overall by beautifying an abandoned building that will become a vibrant community," said LINC Housing President and CEO Hunter L. Johnson.

Each unit features appliances and central air conditioning while the courtyard has a playground, benches and barbecues to give residents a comfortable, safe area to relax and connect. Mosaic Gardens was also built with sustainability in mind, featuring Energy Star appliances, solar hot water, and drought tolerant planting. Funding for the \$10 million project came from various sources including federal, county, and private sources. For more information about Mosaic Gardens, including the rental application process, please call LINC Housing at (562) 684-1100.



Upcoming Events

Neighborhood Improvement Meeting

6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4
Raul R. Perez Memorial Park
6208 Alameda St.

Grand Opening of Mosaic Gardens

3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 5
6337 Middleton St.

Used Oil Collection

9 a.m. on Saturday, April 5
Pep Boys
2671 Randolph St.

Carnaval Primavera Downtown Festival

Friday, April 4 to Sunday, April 6
Downtown Pacific Blvd.

Salt Lake Park Soccer Field Groundbreaking

11 a.m. on Saturday, April 26
Salt Lake Park
3401 E. Florence Ave.

Month of the Child Event

1 p.m. on Saturday, April 26
Salt Lake Park
3401 E. Florence Ave.

Community Cleanup

9 a.m. on Saturday, April 26
Huntington Park Community Center
6925 Salt Lake Ave.

Spring Skateboarding Competition

12 p.m. on Saturday, May 3
Salt Lake Park Skate Park
3401 E. Florence Ave.

Memorial Day Event

1 p.m. on Monday, May 26
Raul R. Perez Memorial Park
6208 Alameda St.

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Used Oil Collection to be Held April 5 at Pep Boys

Did you know that the used oil from one oil change can pollute one MILLION gallons of water? You can keep used oil out of our storm drains by dropping off used oil and oil filters at our next collection event from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 5, at the Pep Boys located at 2671 Randolph St. By recycling your used oil filter, you will also get a **free new filter!** Limit three per household.

Recycling your used motor oil is easy!

1. Do not spill any oil on the ground.
2. Put your used motor oil in a clean plastic container with a tight lid. Never store used oil in a container that once held chemicals, food, or beverages.
3. Do not mix the oil with anything else, such as antifreeze, solvent, or paint.
4. Take used motor oil to a service station or other location that collects used motor oil for recycling. (Source: EPA)

Keep HP Clean at April 26 Community Cleanup

With the help of volunteers, we continue working together to keep our community clean and beautiful. Through community efforts, we are able to stop litter and trash from going into our storm drains and into the ocean. Our next community cleanup event will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 26 at the Huntington Park Community Center (6925 Salt Lake Ave.). Cleaning supplies and refreshments will be provided. We hope you will join us to keep Huntington Park clean and beautiful!

To volunteer, or to help organize a cleanup event in your neighborhood, please contact Mario Rivas at mrivas@huntingtonpark.org or call (323) 584-6322.

For more information about these and other recycling and cleanup events, please call the Department of Public Works at (323) 584-6274.



Liga Legal Offering Free Immigration Advice

Questions about immigration issues? Stop the confusion and get facts from an attorney. Liga Legal, which opened its doors in Huntington Park last summer, is offering free immigration law advice in English and Spanish. For more information please call (800) 500-1102 or visit Liga Legal's office at 7136 Pacific Blvd.