



The Los Al Loop



Your Source for Los Alamitos Community News

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thelosalloop.org

Celebrate Los Al Returns for Day of Service, Food, Music and Family



Pictured from left to right: The Celebrate Los Al 2025 featured line dancing and live music which will be included this year with more acts and more fun!

The City of Los Alamitos welcomes more than 7,500 residents each year to Celebrate Los Al, a full day community event that highlights local food, volunteer service opportunities, and public safety resources. Sponsored by Universal Waste Systems (UWS), the annual celebration is designed to bring families together through hands on service projects, health and wellness activities, carnival attractions, and an evening glow in the dark fun run. The event has become one of the City's most anticipated traditions, offering something for residents of all ages and interests.

Throughout the morning and afternoon, families are encouraged to participate in service projects related to Serve Los Al. As the day progresses, the goal is for attendees to return for the Celebrate Los Al carnival, which unfolds along Pine Street. For one night, the street is transformed with fall themed décor, food stands, vendor booths, and festive displays.

One of the event's signature attractions is Pine StrEATs, a tasting experience coordinated by the City's Development Services Division. This popular feature showcases the diverse culinary landscape of Los Alamitos' local restaurants. More than fifteen eateries will participate, including Amaravati Indian Restaurant, Angeli-

na's Famous Pizza, Butter and Cream Bakery, Coconut Rabbit, Dairy Market by Breezys, Jimmy John's, Katella Bakery, Mama's Comfort Food & Cocktails, Mustard's Chicago Style Eatery, Pacific Organic Pops, Pietrini Pizza Napoletana, Shenandoah at the Arbor, Taboon Mediterranean, Taco Surf, Thailusion, and The Pub at Fiddlers Green. Carnival style food is available throughout the celebration, with classic fair snacks, desserts, and specialty beverages offered at various booths. For adults seeking a quiet space to relax, the Beverage Garden, hosted by the Los Alamitos Community Foundation, provides refreshments and live entertainment.

Public Safety agencies also play a central role in the event. The Los Alamitos Police Department, the Orange County Fire Authority, and the City's Emergency Response Teams serve as the main attractions for the Public Safety Fair. These departments host information booths and interactive displays featuring police vehicles, fire equipment, and safety demonstrations. Attendees have the chance to meet first responders, ask questions, and learn important safety tips directly from public safety professionals. Police Chief Michael Claborn stated, "It is good for the community to put a name to the badge. The Police De-

partment is always seeking ways to get out and meet the public at events like Celebrate Los Al, Coffee with a Cop, or the future Business Watch Program coming later this year."

Between musical performances, the City takes time to honor local veteran residents during a special recognition ceremony and to mark the 25th Year of Remembrance of 9/11. Veterans are recognized for their contributions during this celebration.

As temperatures cool in the evening, excitement builds for the Los Al Glow Run. Families dress in neon colors and gather for the one mile route, which features glow tunnels, glow sticks, and bursts of color powder. Volunteers distribute race shirts and glow accessories as participants prepare to run, walk, or glide through the illuminated neighborhood course. Register for the Glow Run at cityoflosalamitos.org

"This event is such a big cornerstone of all of the events that the City offers", said City Manager Chet Simmons. "There is a lot of opportunity for everyone to pitch in and serve the community followed by a huge carnival." The carnival concludes at 10 p.m., closing out a day that city officials say showcases the very best of Los Alamitos: community service, delicious local food, public safety awareness, and family friendly recreation.

Upcoming Events Calendar

City Meetings

City Council Meeting
Date: September 28, 2026
Time: 6:00 PM

Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Commission Meeting
Date: October 7, 2026
Time: 6:00 PM

Planning Commission Meeting
Date: September 23, 2026
Time: 6:00 PM

City Events

Celebrate Los Al
Date: September 12, 2026
Location: 10901 Pine Street
Time: 4:30 AM to 9:30 PM

Military Equipment Public Meeting
Date: September 28, 2026
Location: Los Alamitos City Council Chamber
Time: 5:00 PM

Elevate Women's Conference
Date: October 7, 2026
Location: Los Alamitos Community Center
Time: 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Trunk or Treat
Date: October 24, 2026
Location: Little Cottonwood Park
Time: 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM

More events can be found on the City website: cityoflosalamitos.org

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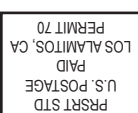
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KEEP UP WITH US IN 2026

(562) 431-3538 CITYOFLOSALAMITOS.ORG

FOLLOW US @CITYOFLOSAL

REGISTRATION:LOSALRECREATION.MYREC.COM



Los Alamitos
3191 Katella Avenue
Los Alamitos, CA 90720-5600



Mayor’s Business Spotlight: Taco Surf



For decades, Taco Surf has been a familiar part of the local dining scene, bringing its Baja-inspired Mexican cuisine and laid-back surf culture to the community. The Los Alamitos location at 10542 Los Alamitos Boulevard was recently featured as part of the City of Los Alamitos’ Mayor’s Business Spotlight Program, recognizing the restaurant’s longstanding connection to the community and highlighting the importance of supporting the local businesses that help make Los Alamitos unique.

Taco Surf’s story began in 1988, when a father and son shared a vision inspired by their love of Mexico, Baja and surfing. Family recipes and a passion for food became the foundation of the restaurant, which has since grown into a longtime local favorite. Today, Taco Surf continues that tradition at its Los Alamitos location, serving a menu that includes tacos, enchiladas, fajitas, carnitas, seafood dishes and other Mexican favorites. The Mayor’s Business Spotlight is one of the City’s economic development initiatives designed to recognize and promote the businesses that contribute to the Los Alamitos community. Through the program, participating businesses have the opportunity to share their story, services and specialties through a brief on-camera interview that is shared through the City’s social media and YouTube platforms. The program gives local businesses additional exposure while allowing residents to learn more about the people and organizations behind the storefronts they see every day.

Taco Surf is a great example of why shopping and dining locally matters. When residents choose to spend their dollars at a local restaurant, shop or service provider, they are helping

support the businesses that contribute to the character and vitality of the community. Local businesses create jobs, fill commercial spaces, attract visitors and help create the neighborhood destinations that give Los Alamitos its unique identity. Supporting local does not always require a major commitment. It can be as simple as grabbing lunch at a neighborhood restaurant, visiting a locally owned shop, recommending a Los Alamitos business to a friend or choosing a local service provider when an opportunity arises. Each of these choices helps strengthen the local economy and encourages businesses to continue investing in the community.

Taco Surf offers plenty of opportunities for residents to make that local connection. The Los Alamitos restaurant is open seven days a week and features popular weekly offerings, including Taco Tuesday and weekday Happy Hour. The restaurant’s menu also includes a Mexican Pizza that is offered exclusively at the Los Alamitos location, giving residents another reason to stop by and experience something unique to their local Taco Surf.

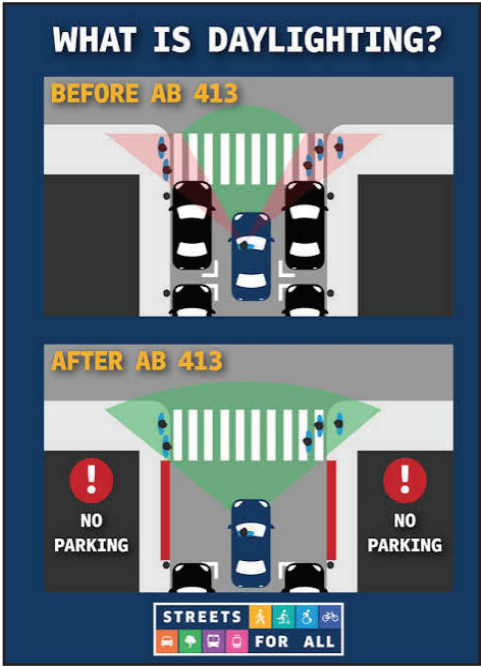
The City’s Economic Development Division continues to focus on business attraction, retention and support, with programs such as the Mayor’s Business Spotlight, Business Visitation Program, Discover Los Alamitos and other initiatives designed to strengthen connections between the City, local businesses and the community.

The Mayor’s Business Spotlight is more than a recognition program, it is an invitation for residents to discover the businesses that are part of the Los Alamitos community. As Taco Surf’s recent spotlight demonstrates, supporting local businesses helps preserve the places, people and experiences that make Los Alamitos a great place to live, work, dine and visit. To learn more about the Mayor’s Business Spotlight Program or other local economic development initiatives, visit the City of Los Alamitos’ Economic Development webpage. To learn more about Taco Surf, including its menu and Los Alamitos location, visit www.TacoSurf.com.



The Taco Surf location at 10542 Los Alamitos Blvd Los Alamitos, CA 90720.

Explanation: What Exactly is “Daylighting”?



The City of Los Alamitos implemented new parking regulations in 2025 that will affect parking throughout the City, including in Midtown, due to the State of California’s implementation of Assembly Bill 413 (AB 413). AB 413, commonly referred to as the “Daylighting Law,” is the driving force behind the changes to parking enforcement in Los Alamitos and communities throughout the state. Daylighting refers to removing parking spaces near intersections and crosswalks to improve visibility for pedestrians and drivers. The law amended the California Vehicle Code to prohibit stopping, standing or parking within 20 feet of the approach side of a marked or unmarked crosswalk, or within 15 feet where a curb extension is present. The law went into effect January 1, 2025. The purpose of the law is to create a clear visibility area, or “daylight,” at intersections. Removing parked vehicles from these areas allows drivers to

better see pedestrians, bicyclists and approaching traffic, while also giving pedestrians a clearer view of vehicles. Los Alamitos has communicated these changes and is now implementing enforcement of the parking restrictions established by state law. Red curbs will also be painted to create a clear distinction of where cars are appropriate to park in the coming months. These regulations are not at the discretion of the City and are required under AB 413 and California Vehicle Code Section 22500. The changes will have a noticeable impact in areas such as Midtown, where the more condensed residential development means available on-street parking is already limited. While the City recognizes that these changes may create challenges for residents, the requirements are intended to promote safety throughout the community. City Manager Chet Simmons said the new regulations will provide important visibility benefits for everyone using the City’s streets. “Daylighting provides a clearer view for pedestrians and drivers alike. Pedestrians crossing a street will have a clear view of oncoming vehicles and drivers will be able to see if a person is waiting to cross the street,” City Manager Simmons said. The City of Los Alamitos remains committed to the safety of pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers and encourages residents and visitors to familiarize themselves with the new requirements and leave adequate space near intersections and crosswalks when parking or stopping.

ANNUAL COMMUNITY SHRED EVENT

A CERTIFIED MOBILE SHRED TRUCK WILL SHRED DOCUMENTS PROVIDED IN PERSON ON SITE

Monday, October 12, 2026
10 a.m. to 1 p.m. OR
Until the Truck is Full

10911 Oak Street
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

- Limit of 4 bank boxes per car
- Staff will be available to assist with boxes
- No binders
- No electronic media
- No e-rays
- No plastic/trash

More Information

(562) 431-3538 www.CityofLosAlamitos.org

Los Alamitos Encourages Safe E-Bike Rides

E-Bike Classifications



Class 1

Pedal Assisted
Max Speed: 20 MPH



Class 2

Throttle Assisted
Max Speed: 20 MPH



Class 3

Speed Pedal-Assisted
Max Speed: 28 MPH

Follow all traffic laws.
Riders under 18 years old must wear helmets.
One rider per E-Bike unless the E-Bike is built for multiple riders.
Headphones, earbuds or any other device that covers the ear canal are not allowed.

The three classifications of E-Bikes that are outlined in the City’s Municipal Code.

As electric bicycles continue to surge in popularity across Orange County, the City of Los Alamitos reminds residents that parents and riders must take proactive steps to support safe and responsible riding throughout the community. E-Bikes have become an increasingly popular form of transportation for students, families, and commuters, offering a convenient way to travel while also creating new safety considerations for riders, pedestrians, and motorists. To help establish clear expectations, Los Alamitos adopted Ordinance 2025-01 in February 2025, outlining local regulations surrounding E-Bikes and other electric conveyances. Orange County and cities throughout the region are continuing to examine how to create a safe riding experience for residents and visitors following recommendations from a recent Orange County Grand Jury report, which encouraged more consistent E-Bike regulations across jurisdictions. As communities work to balance the benefits of new transportation options with the need to protect everyone sharing public streets and pathways, education and responsible riding remain essential. Police Chief Michael Claborn stated, “The City’s regulations provide a framework for safe riding in the community, but it is up to parents to educate their kids on safe riding and for adults to follow the rules.” Los Alamitos has seen a steady rise in E-Bike use, particularly among students traveling to school and families using them for short trips. The E-Bike regulation outlines safe riding expectations, including following applicable traffic laws and operating at appropriate speeds. Regulations also highlight helmet requirements for riders under 18, reinforcing the importance of developing safe habits at an early age. California law defines an E-Bike as a bicycle equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts. State regulations further divide E-Bikes into three categories. Under the system, a Class 1 E-Bike provides motor assistance only while the rider is pedaling, with a max speed of 20 miles per hour. Class 2 models offer either pedal-assist or

throttle-based operation, also with a max speed at 20 miles per hour. Class 3 E-Bikes provide motor support only while pedaling and allow speeds up to 28 miles per hour. Understanding these classifications can help families make informed decisions about the type of E-Bike being operated and ensure riders understand the capabilities of their equipment. Parents are encouraged to discuss basic safety practices with young riders, including following traffic laws, stopping at intersections, watching for pedestrians, and avoiding distractions while riding. The Los Alamitos Unified School District has also strengthened its partnership with the Los Alamitos Police Department through an educational program. Any student who rides an E-Bike to school must complete an E-Bike safety course hosted by the Police Department before parking on campus. The course covers safe handling, rules of the road, and the differences between each E-Bike class. Participants receive a sticker valid for two years showing they have completed the training. The program is designed to boost riders’ confidence while creating meaningful opportunities for students to engage with local officers in a supportive and educational environment. Chief Claborn stated, “The program is designed to help riders know what is safe and what is not safe while riding to and from school. We hold safety as the highest principle for all residents and visitors within Los Alamitos. This is just another tool for us to use to create a safe environment for everyone.” The City’s approach emphasizes education, prevention, and personal responsibility. Through education and responsible riding, Los Alamitos can continue to embrace new transportation options while maintaining the safe and welcoming community residents expect. For more information about the City’s E-Bike regulations and safety programs, residents are encouraged to contact the Los Alamitos Police Department or visit the City’s E-Bike Ordinance webpage.

Los Alamitos Adopts Communications Plan



CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS
My City My Los Al
COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGIC PLAN
2026
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At the Monday, August 17, City Council meeting, the City discussed its Communications Strategic Plan, a framework designed to strengthen the way the City communicates with residents, businesses, visitors and the broader Los Alamitos community. The plan provides a roadmap for creating a more coordinated, consistent and purposeful approach to communications while supporting the City’s commitment to transparency, accessibility, community engagement and quality of life. The framework recognizes that residents receive information in many different ways. Some community members regularly visit the City’s website, while others follow the City on social media, read The Los Al Loop, subscribe to City updates, watch local government programming or learn about City activities through community events and conversations with neighbors. The plan also looks at communications from the perspective of the resident receiving the information. This approach can help make City information easier to find, easier to understand and more useful in residents’ everyday lives. A key component of the strategy is creating greater consistency across the City’s communication channels. Whether residents are visiting the City website, reading a newsletter, viewing a social media post or watching a City Council meeting, the goal is to provide clear and reliable information that reflects the same commitment to transparency and public service. For community members, the Communications Strategic Plan is intended to create a more consistent experience when interacting with the City. Whether the subject is a street improvement project, community event, new program, public meeting, service update, or public safety message, residents should be able to find clear information about what is happening. The strategy also provides an opportunity to highlight the work happening throughout Los Alamitos. Many City services and projects happen behind the scenes, and effective communication can help residents better understand how those efforts affect their daily lives. From maintaining public infrastructure and supporting

local businesses to providing recreational opportunities, enhancing public safety and preparing for emergencies, communication helps connect the work of City staff with the community they serve. The plan also recognizes that effective communication must continue to evolve. As technology changes and residents develop new ways of receiving information, the City will continue evaluating its communication tools and identifying opportunities to improve how information is shared. This includes looking for ways to make information more accessible, responsive and relevant to the needs of the community. An important goal of the plan is also strengthening community engagement. Communication should not be a one-way conversation. Providing residents with information and meaningful opportunities to participate can encourage greater involvement in local government and help strengthen the relationship between the City and its community. Feedback from residents can also help the City better understand which communication tools are working and where additional improvements may be needed. “The Communications Strategic Plan is another tool for the City to use that allows us to make sure we are reaching the residents and reaching them effectively,” stated City Clerk/Director of Communications Windmera. “The City is making every effort that it can to provide every person in the City the information they need to stay informed and to participate in their local government.” The Communications Strategic Plan is ultimately about building trust through clear, consistent and meaningful communication. By creating a more coordinated approach, the City can better communicate not only what it is doing, but also how residents can access services, provide input and participate in decision making. As Los Alamitos continues moving forward, the City recognizes that keeping residents informed is an important part of maintaining and enhancing the community’s quality of life. Strong communication can help residents feel more connected to their local government while providing them with the information needed to participate in the community. Residents with questions, suggestions or feedback about City communications are encouraged to contact the Los Al Communications Team at losalcommunications@cityoflosalamitos.org. Community members are also encouraged to stay connected through the City’s website, social media, The Los Al Loop and other City communication channels. Moving Los Alamitos forward is about more than completing projects and providing services. It is also about keeping the community informed, connected and engaged along the way.

