



Officer Gibson Sworn in Following Father’s Footsteps in Policing



Officer Gibson posing with his father, retired Seal Beach Sergeant Gibson, after oath and badge pinning ceremony.

The Los Alamitos Police Department, steadfast in its mission to protect the safety and well-being of residents and visitors, proudly welcomed Officer Gibson during a recent swearing-in ceremony that underscores the department’s deep-rooted values of service, integrity, and community. Officer Gibson brings with him a legacy of public service and a personal commitment to upholding the department’s high standards. Raised in Los Alamitos, Officer Gibson’s family exemplifies dedication to others. His father, Jeff Gibson, recently retired as a police sergeant from the Seal Beach Police Department, while his mother, Dell, served the community as a school nurse. Together, they instilled in their children a strong moral compass and a sense of responsibility to give back. Officer Gibson’s father once served as an officer with the Los Alamitos Police Department. Sergeant Gibson began his public service career as a Maintenance Worker for the City. During that time, Sergeant Gibson developed close relationships with several officers and decided to pursue a career in law enforcement. The Los Alamitos Police Department sponsored him through the academy, which he graduated from, and then he became a full-fledged officer for Los Alamitos. Sergeant Gibson recently retired from the Seal Beach Police Department, but the family’s roots remain in Los Alamitos, where Officer Gibson will now protect and serve the community “Every Minute, Every Hour.”

From a young age, Gibson was drawn

to competition and teamwork, participating in flag football, Little League baseball, and a variety of other sports. But beyond the games, it was the discipline, perseverance, and camaraderie that shaped his character—qualities that would later guide him toward a career in law enforcement. Gibson’s path to policing was not a straight line. While attending Pacifica High School, he began to seek greater independence and self-direction. The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic prompted him to transition to an independent study program, allowing him to work full-time while continuing his education. At just 16, he joined a manufacturing company owned by a family friend, where he faced physical and mental challenges that tested his determination. Rather than being discouraged, Gibson embraced the experience. He became a valued team member and learned the importance of hard work, self-reliance, and perseverance. Yet, despite his success in the private sec-

tor, he felt a deeper calling—one rooted in service and inspired by his family’s legacy. Driven by a desire to make a meaningful impact, Gibson decided to pursue a career in law enforcement, following in his father’s footsteps. With the support of his family and a clear sense of purpose, he entered the police academy and began the rigorous training required to serve as a peace officer. Now officially sworn in as a member of the Los Alamitos Police Department, Officer Gibson is ready to serve the community that helped shape him. His badge was pinned by none other than his father, retired Sergeant Gibson, who began his own law enforcement career in Los Alamitos decades earlier. The Los Alamitos Police Department remains firm in its commitment of cultivating a community that is not only safe but also inclusive, respectful, and supportive of all individuals. This commitment is reflected in every aspect of the department’s work—from proactive community engagement to the continuous pursuit of excellence in public service. The addition of Officer Gibson further strengthens this mission. Officer Gibson brings with him a strong sense of duty, integrity, and a genuine passion for serving others. His presence reinforces the department’s proud tradition of protecting and serving with both compassion and professionalism, ensuring that every resident feels seen, heard, and valued.



Officer Gibson being sworn in by Chief Michael Claborn during the Oct. 13, 2025 City Council Meeting.

Upcoming Events Calendar

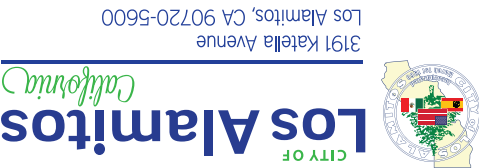
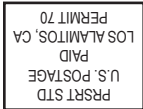
City Meetings

- City Council Meeting
Date: November 17, 2025
Time: 6:00 PM
- Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Commission Meeting
Date: February 4, 2026
Time: 6:00 PM
- Planning Commission Meeting
Date: January 21, 2026
Time: 6:00 PM
- Traffic Commission Meeting
Date: December 10, 2025
Time: 6:00 PM

City Events

- Communities Come Together
Date: November 15, 2025
Location: Los Alamitos Community Center - 10911 Oak St.
Time: 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
- Coffee with a Cop & Toy Drive
Date: December 3, 2025
Location: Starbucks - 3575 Katella Ave.
Time: 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- Winter Wonderland
Date: December 6, 2025
Location: 10901 Pine St.
Time: 4:00 PM to 7:30 PM
- Good Evening Los Al
Date: December 9, 2025
Location: Los Alamitos Community Center - 10911 Oak St.
Time: 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM
- Holiday Decorating Contest
Date: December 10, 2025
Location: City-wide
Time: 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

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



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City, Legion Unite to Honor Armed Forces with Mural Dedication



Members of American Legion Los Alamitos Post 716 unveil the post’s new mural, carefully removing the covering canvas from the rooftop during the dedication ceremony.

The American Legion Marin-Davis Post 716 held a mural dedication ceremony on Sept. 28, 2025. The ceremony commemorated the service of local veterans and celebrated decades of partnership between the Legion, the community, and the City. The mural, painted by retired Sergeant First Class Mario A. Cespedes, was unveiled at the Marin-Davis Memorial Building, which has served as the post’s home since its dedication in November 1962. The building honors Sergeant Delphino Marin-Casado,

U.S. Marine Corps, and Lonnie T. Davis, U.S. Army. Post 716 was chartered on Sept. 26, 1948, with 43 founding members. The original charter, listing the names of those members, remains on display inside the Legion clubhouse. The event highlighted the coordinated efforts of the City and Post 716 to honor military service and preserve local history. The City was an active participant in coordinating and fast-tracking the permitting process for the new mural. City officials joined

Legion representatives and community members to recognize the mural as a symbol of shared values and civic pride in Los Alamitos. Los Alamitos continues to engage with local organizations on projects that reflect its commitment to service, collaboration, and community enrichment. The mural dedication stands as a testament to those efforts and the City’s enduring support for its veterans. City officials will endeavor to provide more artwork in the future.

Los Alamitos Elevates Empowerment at Annual Women’s Conference



Every participant at the Elevate Women’s Conference 2025 posing together after the conclusion of meeting and learning about various strategies of empowerment.

The City of Los Alamitos proudly hosted its fourth annual Elevate Women’s Conference on Wednesday, October 1, 2025, at the Los Alamitos Community Center. Sponsored by Premier Sponsor MemorialCare Long Beach Medical Center, the highly anticipated event brought together nearly 90 women from Los Alamitos and surrounding communities for a full day of inspiration, empowerment, and connection. Created to provide a space for women to motivate and uplift one another, the conference focuses on personal and professional growth while offering practical tools and strategies to help women become their best selves. The event also supports the City’s broader mission to foster community engagement, strengthen partnerships, and enhance the quality of life for its residents.

The conference opened with a keynote session that set a motivating tone, encouraging participants to embrace the challenges and triumphs of personal and professional development. The theme centered on resilience, balance, and celebrating each stage of growth. A series of engaging sessions followed, focusing on leadership, communication, wellness, and empowerment. Attendees learned how understanding individual communication styles can enhance influence and connection in both the workplace and daily life. Breakout sessions offered opportunities for participants to explore a wide range of topics—from redefining women’s wellness and prioritizing self-care to understanding physical health and body confidence. Local professionals shared their expertise

and insights, providing practical advice and encouraging attendees to take an active role in their personal well-being. The day concluded with an energetic speed networking session, where participants connected one-on-one in quick, meaningful exchanges designed to foster new professional relationships and lasting community connections. The session encouraged attendees to share stories, offer support, and celebrate each other’s experiences. The Elevate Women’s Conference once again highlighted the City of Los Alamitos’ commitment to creating opportunities that inspire, educate, and empower residents. By hosting events like this, the City continues to blend small-town charm with big-city innovation—building a community that values connection, creativity, and lifelong learning.

Los Alamitos Invests in Infrastructure with Ongoing Capital Improvement Projects

Los Alamitos continues to invest in the community’s infrastructure through an ambitious Capital Improvement Program (CIP) designed to enhance public safety, accessibility, and overall quality of life. From upgraded parks and improved streets to modernized facilities and sustainability initiatives, the City’s CIP reflects a strong commitment to long-term growth and community well-being. Each year, the City selects projects based on community needs, available funding, and safety priorities. These projects are reviewed by the Budget Standing Committee and approved by the City Council as part of the annual budget process. Recent accomplishments include major street rehabilitation, park renovations, and public facility upgrades. The FY 22/23 Street Improvement Project resurfaced and repaired numerous streets, improving ADA accessibility and pedestrian safety. The Katella Avenue Striping Project was completed earlier this year, enhancing visibility for motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians. Labourdette Park received a full renovation with new playground equipment and landscaping, while Soroptimist Park is currently under construction and expected to be completed by the end of 2025. Design work for Stansbury Park is also underway to improve playground and accessibility features. Several major projects are currently in progress or about to begin. The Pine Street Complete Streets Project, funded by a \$5 million federal grant, will transform the City’s downtown corridor into a vibrant, walkable hub supporting local businesses and community events like Celebrate Los Al and Winter Wonderland. Additionally, a new dog park at Laurel Park is also planned, featuring separate areas for large and small dogs, seating, and play structures. The City is also advancing sustainability and emergency preparedness. Electric vehicle charging stations are being installed to support the City’s EV fleet implementation. Looking ahead, the City’s Traffic Commission has recommended several future safety projects, including the Bradbury/Rossmoor Way Traffic Signal Relocation to improve ADA compliance, the Los Alamitos Boulevard Sidewalk Repair project to enhance pedestrian access, and a Citywide Safety Light Replacement to transition to energy-efficient LED lighting. Through these continued investments, the City of Los Alamitos is strengthening its infrastructure, promoting sustainability, and ensuring that residents benefit from safe, accessible, and well-maintained public spaces, improving quality of life for all residents and City guests.

City Releases First Quarter Budget Update for Fiscal Year 2025–26, Highlights Stability

The City has released its first quarter Budget-to-Actual Comparison for Fiscal Year 2025–26, providing an early look at how revenues and expenditures are tracking from July through September 2025.

As part of the annual budget adoption process, the City Council directed staff to provide quarterly financial updates to keep the Budget Standing Committee and City Council informed of spending trends and to support timely adjustments throughout the fiscal year. The first quarter report was reviewed by the Budget Standing Committee during a special meeting held on October 6, 2025, with no concerns raised.

The report provided both a summary and detailed view of City finances, showing approximately 14% of total expenditures and 6% of total revenues recorded during the first three months, consistent with the early stages of the fiscal year.

Citywide expenditures through September totaled \$3.5 million out of an adopted budget of \$25.5 million, while revenues totaled \$1.58 million out of \$27 million budgeted.

Among major departments:

- Police Department spending reached about 15% of its annual budget, reflecting early-year operational and staffing costs.
- Administrative and Finance functions each reported expenditures near 20% of their respective budgets.
- Recreation and Community Development operations each remained below 15%, aligning with the City’s targeted pacing for the first quarter.

Finance staff noted that many revenue categories are acknowledged during

defined periods, like property taxes, which are typically received in the latter half of the fiscal year. Sales tax and TOT are received more regularly throughout the fiscal year.

Additionally, the first 90 days of each new fiscal year often include final accruals and adjustments related to the prior year’s audit, which can temporarily affect early financial reports.

The City will continue providing quarterly updates throughout the fiscal year.

In addition to the new quarterly update, the City was recognized with the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the first time ever. The prestigious national honor highlights excellence and transparency in public budgeting. To receive the award, budget documents must satisfy rigorous criteria and serve effectively as a policy document, financial plan, operations guide, and communication tool.

The GFOA established the Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program in 1984 to encourage state and local governments to prepare budget documents that meet the highest standards in clarity, accountability, and communication.

Approximately 1,900 governments nationwide, including states, cities, counties, and special districts, have been recognized through the program for their commitment to public transparency in budgeting.

This recognition reflects the City’s ongoing dedication to fiscal responsibility, openness, and the effective communication of financial information to residents and stakeholders.

How Los Alamitos Balances Service, Transparency, and Fiscal Responsibility



Every day, the City of Los Alamitos provides essential services not only to its residents but also to the thousands of visitors, employees, and students who pass through the community. From maintaining public safety and parks to ensuring clean streets, supporting local recreation, and issuing passports, these services define the character and quality of life that make Los Alamitos “The Best City Ever.” Of course, these services come with a cost, one that City staff work diligently to manage responsibly and transparently for the public.

While state and federal funding play occasional supporting roles, the City’s primary financial lifeline comes from local sources. Sales tax, property tax, and franchise fees all contribute to the City’s operating budget and directly support the community’s daily needs with City provided services.

The voter-approved Measure Y (2020) has been instrumental in sustaining critical public safety investments, most notably helping fund the expansion of Public Safety. Thanks to this locally generated revenue, the City has been able to enhance law enforcement staffing, technology, and community engagement programs, ensuring that Los Alamitos remains one of the safest cities in the entire state of California.

Yet Measure Y is just one piece of a larger picture. Every dollar, whether from a property tax payment or a business license fee, contributes to keeping City services running smoothly. These funds are allocated carefully across departments, from Recreation and Community Services to Public Works and Development Services, ensuring that Los Alamitos continues to deliver a wide range of high-quality programs for its residents.

The City’s Finance Department recently earned the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, for the first time ever, from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), one of the highest honors in municipal budgeting.

This national recognition reflects the City’s commitment to clarity, accountability, and fiscal transparency. To receive the award, a City’s

budget must meet rigorous standards and serve effectively as a policy document, financial plan, operations guide, and communication tool.

Out of thousands of local governments nationwide, only about 1,900 have received this distinction. Los Alamitos’ recognition puts it among an elite group of municipalities that go above and beyond to ensure residents tax dollars are spent properly.

In other words, the City’s award-winning budget document doesn’t just list numbers, it tells the story of how Los Alamitos invests in its people, its priorities, and its future.

Los Alamitos stands for its fiscal discipline but also for the range of services it provides, many of which are uncommon for a small City.

Few small cities, for example, operate a passport processing program, offer a comprehensive Senior Services Master Plan, or publish a monthly newsletter delivered to every household. Los Alamitos does all three and more. These programs are tangible examples of the City’s philosophy: that residents deserve exceptional service without sacrificing fiscal responsibility.

Every service has a cost, some small, others significant, but together they create the strong sense of community that residents value most.

For the fifth consecutive year, Los Alamitos has maintained a structurally balanced budget, meaning the City’s recurring revenues continue to meet or exceed its recurring expenditures. This financial stability is a testament to careful planning, conservative forecasting, and a culture of accountability in the organization.

The City’s financial practices reflect more than just balance sheets; they reflect values. Transparency, safety, quality of life, and community pride guide every budget decision.

Los Alamitos may be small in size, but its ambitions are big. City leaders and staff remain dedicated to ensuring that every dollar spent moves the City closer to its shared vision, to make Los Alamitos truly “The Best City Ever.”

Employee of the Qtr.: Gilberto Arteaga-Ceja



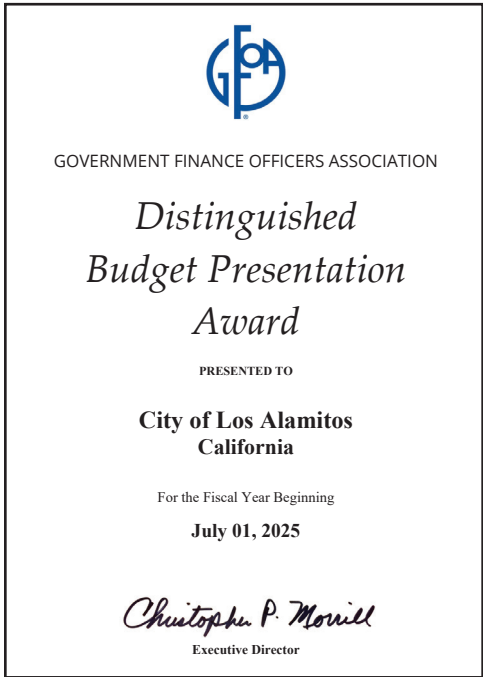
The City of Los Alamitos Employee of the Quarter Awards (EoQ) Program, aimed at recognizing full-time city employees for their exceptional work performance and dedication, has recognized Recreation Coordinator Gilberto Arteaga-Ceja for the Fall 2025 quarter. The Employee of the Quarter Program honors individuals who display a strong work ethic, provide high-quality customer service, and consistently go above and beyond in their respective departments or across city operations.

The awards program spotlights city employees who stand out among their peers for their remarkable contributions. The program is designed

to acknowledge these employees on a quarterly basis, ensuring that excellence is rewarded throughout the year. Any City of Los Alamitos employee can nominate fellow full-time, non-executive employees who have been with the City for at least one year and are off probation. Executive Staff members are ineligible, and employees who have received the award within the past two years are ineligible for re-nomination.

Award recipients are publicly recognized during a City Council meeting with a Certificate of Recognition, receive an additional 10 hours of vacation pay, and have their name and photo displayed on the Employee of the Quarter plaque. Additionally, they will be given a unique “Employee of the Quarter Recognition Belt,” a rotating item passed from one recipient to the next.

With four employees receiving this prestigious honor each year, the program aims to celebrate those who make exceptional contributions to the City of Los Alamitos. Recognitions are announced city-wide at the beginning of each quarter.



Los Alamitos’ first GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for Fiscal Year 2025.

Los Alamitos Encourages Local Shopping

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LOS AL

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We're

OPEN

Support

Los Al businesses by shopping local in the months of November and December

The City of Los Alamitos encourages all residents to shop locally and support the small business owners who help make our community thrive. Every purchase made in Los Alamitos, whether in person or online, helps keep valuable sales tax revenue in the community, fueling economic growth and allowing the City to reinvest in local programs, infrastructure, and services. This Small Business Saturday, make a difference right here at home. Shop Local!

Los Alamitos Earns Most Supportive Small City Award from the Orange County MIVCD



Photo by Eddie Sanchez

A vector control team member blowing out a storm drain to fight mosquito nesting.

The City of Los Alamitos was recognized with the Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District's (OCMVCD) Most Supportive Small City Award during its Oct. 13, 2025 City Council meeting. The award honors the City's proactive efforts to reduce public health risks associated with disease-carrying pests, such as rodents and mosquitoes. OCMVCD Public Information Officer Brian Brannon presented the award. OCMVCD provides surveillance and control services for vectors across all 34 cities and unincorporated areas of Orange County. Vectors, as defined by the California Department of Public Health, include any insect or animal capable of transmitting disease or causing human discomfort or injury.

This includes mosquitoes, rats, flies, and red imported fire ants. The OCMVCD's recognition highlights Los Alamitos' commitment to preventative strategies that reduce vector populations and protect public health. While the OCMVCD conducts regular surveillance and control measures throughout the county, it also emphasizes the importance of community involvement and land management practices that support long-term vector reduction. Los Alamitos has worked in coordination with the OCMVCD to implement measures that align with its Integrated Vector Management (IVM) approach. IVM is a site-specific, science-based strategy that combines multiple techniques to manage vector populations effectively. These techniques fall into four categories: cultural control, source reduction, biological control, and chemical control. Residents are encouraged to participate in vector reduction by following recommended practices. The Vector Award serves as a meaningful acknowledgment of Los Alamitos' leadership in public health and its ongoing partnership with the community to reduce vector-related risks. Los Alamitos' efforts continue to set a strong example for municipalities across Orange County. For more information on vector control, visit www.ocvector.org.

CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS

GOOD EVENING, Los Alamitos!

LOS ALAMITOS COMMUNITY CENTER

10911 OAK STREET

TUESDAY,

DECEMBER 9, 2025

6:30 - 8:00 P.M.

Labourdette Park

Citywide EV Transportation Coming Soon

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WINTER Wonderland

Presented by UWS

SATURDAY, December 6, 2025

4pm to 7:30pm

10901 Pine Street, Los Alamitos

Snow Play • Ice Skating Rink • Tree Lighting • Snow Sledding • Musical Entertainment

Santa's Village at ST. ISIDORE HISTORICAL PLAZA

www.cityoflosalamitos.org/recreation

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