



The Los Al Loop



Your Source for Los Alamitos Community News

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thelosalloop.org

Sunburst Fields Open with Partnership from Los Alamitos, JFTB



The Foal Division Angels preparing for their first season of Los Alamitos Youth Baseball (LAYB) with the support of Los Alamitos' maintenance of Sunburst Fields.

The maintenance and administration of Sunburst Field were recently taken over by the City of Los Alamitos, in partnership with the Joint Forces Training Base (JFTB) and Los Alamitos Youth Baseball (LAYB).

LAYB is entering what its leadership describes as a pivotal new chapter, one marked by stronger partnerships, improved facilities, and a more structured relationship with the JFTB, where the league has called home for more than 60 years.

At the center of this transition is LAYB President Sean Mitchell, who has spent nearly a decade with the volunteer-run organization. Mitchell's involvement has been as a LAYB board member before stepping into the presidency. Drawing on that experience, he now leads the league through a period of organizational change that he believes will ultimately strengthen its long-term sustainability.

"This really is a new era for the league," Mitchell explained. "We're building stronger relationships and putting systems in place that will help us operate."

The transition began approximately three years ago, when JFTB, the owner of the land where Sunburst Field is located, introduced updated requirements for formal land-use agree-

ments. As a military installation, the base must maintain clear documentation and justification for how its property is used, including long-standing community programs like youth sports leagues.

According to Mitchell, these new requirements necessitated a higher level of formal coordination and regulatory compliance than the league had previously managed independently. As land-use agreements evolved, both the Joint Forces Training Base (JFTB) and Los Alamitos Youth Baseball (LAYB) approached the City of Los Alamitos to establish a formal partnership in the operation and use of the facility.

City staff worked closely with the league to navigate the evolving requirements, ultimately taking on a larger role in coordinating directly with JFTB. This partnership has helped ensure that LAYB can continue its operations without interruption while meeting all necessary regulatory and administrative standards.

A major component of this new model involves expanded support from the City's Recreation and Development Services departments. Historically, LAYB functioned as a volunteer-driven organization, responsible for everything at the fields.

That responsibility has now shifted in part to the City, which has assumed oversight of field scheduling, maintenance, and operational coordination. Assistant City Manager Ron Noda stated, "Sunburst Field was added to the City's 'green space' and has received added maintenance to get the field up to snuff."

Mitchell and Assistant City Manager Noda credited Jason Bruton, the City's Recreation Manager, for facilitating the transition.

"Jason Bruton has been instrumental throughout this process," Mitchell said. "He's helped guide us through each step and made sure everything runs smoothly."

The impact of the City's involvement is already evident in the condition of the league's facilities. One of the most notable upgrades has been the installation of a new irrigation system, designed to improve field quality.

In addition, Public Works crews now handle regular maintenance, addressing long-standing issues such as uneven playing surfaces and patchy turf, problems that were difficult for a volunteer-run organization to fully resolve on its own.

"The fields look better than they have in years," Mitchell said. Assistant

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Upcoming Events Calendar

City Meetings

City Council Meeting

Date: April 20, 2026

Time: 6:00 PM

Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Commission Meeting

Date: June 3, 2026

Time: 6:00 PM

Planning Commission Meeting

Date: April 22, 2026

Time: 6:00 PM

Traffic Commission Meeting

Date: April 8, 2026

Time: 6:00 PM

City Events

Paws for the Planet

Date: April 25, 2026

Location: Laurel Park

Time: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Senior Prom

Date: May 2, 2026

Location: Los Alamitos Community Center

Time: 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Summer Concerts

Dates: July 11, 18, 25, and August 6, 2026

Location: Orville R. Lewis and Little Cottonwood Park

Time: 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM

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

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Mayor Business Spotlight - EVO Studios



Pictured left to right: Rodney Moenadi and Dan Park receiving Mayor Business Spotlight certificate for February.

In a City where community pride runs deep, even the cars reflect individuality of its residents. This is exactly why, Evo Studios is a part of the heart of the Los Alamitos business community as they are known not just for their craftsmanship, but for their meaningful contribution to the City’s local culture. As a recipient of the Mayor’s Business Spotlight program, Evo Studios represents the entrepreneurial spirit and community-driven values that define Los Alamitos.

For more than 26 years, this family-owned, minority-owned business has built a reputation rooted in precision, innovation, and passion. Serving Los Alamitos and the broader Orange County area, Evo Studios specializes in automotive customization services including window tinting, vinyl wraps, paint protection film, headlight restoration, and accessory installations. Their work goes beyond simple upgrades - they transform vehicles into personalized expressions of style and functionality.

Owner Rodney Moenadi describes at the heart of the business simply is the satisfaction of seeing a finished product out on the road. That pride in craftsmanship is evident in every project, whether it’s a sleek matte wrap, a bold custom design, or a subtle chrome delete that gives a vehicle a more modern, sporty edge. Evo Studios has also adapted to industry trends, embracing the growing shift from traditional paint jobs to vinyl wraps, which allow for greater customization without permanent alteration and creative freedom.

What makes Evo Studios particularly valuable to Los Alamitos is its ability to serve a diverse customer base while maintaining a strong local identity. From individual car enthusiasts to corporate fleets and first responder vehicles, the business meets a wide range of needs. Its services are not only aesthetic but practical - window tinting, for example, helps block harmful UV rays and reduce

interior heat, improving comfort. The company’s commitment to accessibility and customer satisfaction further underscores why it stands out. With same-day and same-week service options, a 10% discount for new customers, and installation warranties of up to 90 days, Evo Studios prioritizes convenience and trust. Much of its business comes from referrals, a testament to the strong relationships it has built within the community.

Evo Studios also plays a role in supporting niche automotive markets, including race car programs. This specialized work highlights the technical expertise of the team and reinforces Los Alamitos as a place where unique industries can thrive. As Evo Studios notes, the customization field has evolved from a saturated market into a more personalized, niche-driven space, one where customers seek distinct, high-quality results rather than one-size-fits-all solutions.

The Mayor’s Business Spotlight aims to celebrate organizations that contribute to the City’s economic vitality while enhancing community character. Evo Studios embodies both. By providing skilled jobs, delivering high-quality services, and fostering a culture of creativity and individuality, the business strengthens Los Alamitos’ reputation as a supportive environment for its small businesses.

As residents drive through the City and beyond, they may very well be seeing Evo Studios’ work in motion, vehicles that stand out not just for their appearance, but for the craftsmanship and local pride behind them. It’s a reflection of a homegrown business that continues to elevate the character of our streets. In recognizing Evo Studios, Los Alamitos acknowledges a business that continues to shape both the look of the road and the spirit of the community. Visit the City’s website for information on the Mayor’s Business Spotlight program and to find other local small businesses to support in Los Alamitos.

Los Alamitos’ Growing Grant Success



The brand new Los Alamitos Community Center which houses the Recreation and Community Services Department was remodeled using grant funding in Fiscal Year 2025.

The City of Los Alamitos is continuing to leverage millions of dollars in external funding to support critical projects and services through its continued use of grant funding.

The Los Alamitos City Council received an update on grant funding at the March 23, 2026, City Council Meeting. Los Alamitos has secured more than \$8 million in grant funding, with an additional \$1.58 million still pending through various state, federal, and regional programs. The funding spans a range of initiatives, from infrastructure and public safety improvements to future capital and service enhancements.

The City Council emphasized that this success is not the result of a single program or department, but rather a coordinated, citywide strategy. Departments across the organization, Development Services, Police, Administration, and Finance, support different stages of the grant process to keep the City competitive in a crowded funding landscape.

As competition for grant funding intensifies across California, cities like Los Alamitos are placing greater emphasis on project readiness, data-driven justification, and regional alignment. The City currently has multiple applications in progress, along with several projects that were not awarded but may be refined and resubmitted in future funding cycles.

City staff also highlighted additional funding opportunities on the horizon in 2026, signaling that the City’s grant efforts are ongoing and forward-looking. Assistant City Manager Ron Noda acknowledged “shovel-ready projects” are in development so the City can quickly mobilize on any grant opportunity that arises. Assistant City Manager Noda also stated, “Grants is an every department project that could not be done without departments working together for the benefit of the residents.”

Behind each awarded grant is a structured and often complex process that begins well before an application is submitted. The process starts with

project identification, where City departments assess community needs and match them with potential funding opportunities. Projects that improve safety, infrastructure, or quality of life are prioritized, particularly those that align with state and federal funding goals.

Next comes grant application development and submittal, a detailed and collaborative effort. Staff often work alongside grant consultants to prepare competitive applications that clearly demonstrate the project’s impact, cost-effectiveness, and readiness to proceed.

If successful, Los Alamitos moves into the award and implementation phase, where projects are launched using the secured funds. A historic example of this in Los Alamitos is the Los Al Link, a cost-effective ride-hailing service partially funded by a grant awarded to Los Alamitos by the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA). Even when applications are not awarded, the work is never lost. Projects can be revised and resubmitted, improving their chances in future cycles provided the grant is published at a later date. The growth in grant approval is due to staff revisiting areas for improvement and refining the application to meet the grant’s requirements, as well as identifying additional community needs.

Finally, the process concludes with reporting and compliance, a critical step that ensures transparency and accountability. The City must track how funds are spent, measure outcomes, and submit regular reports to grant agencies. Strong performance in this phase helps build credibility and strengthens future applications.

By pursuing grants and external funding, Los Alamitos can extend local dollars and complete projects without raising taxes or delaying timelines. This approach supports priority investments while maintaining fiscal stability. Los Alamitos remains competitive as new opportunities emerge, turning planning and collaboration into tangible community benefits.

Los Alamitos/Rossmoor Library Added to Los Al Link Geofence After Community Requests

The Los Alamitos/Rossmoor Library has officially been added to the Los Al Link service area, following multiple requests from residents who asked that the popular community destination be included in the City’s electric ride program.

City staff announced the update, noting that micro transit operator Circuit reviewed the coverage map and determined that the library’s location sat just outside the previous geofence boundary. After evaluating route feasibility and community demand, Circuit expanded the zone, allowing riders to travel to and from the library using the on demand service.

The addition marks the latest update to Los Al Link, which launched in January 2026 to provide affordable, eco friendly transportation throughout the City. The all electric shared ride program uses compact vehicles designed to cut both emissions and neighborhood congestion while offering quick trips to local destinations.

Since its debut, Los Al Link has connected residents to grocery stores, medical facilities, and popular businesses, including Ralphs, The Pot-holder Café, Polly’s Pies, and the Los Alamitos Medical Center. Riders book trips through the Ride Circuit

How it Works:

- Request a Ride**
Use the free Circuit app, or call to schedule a ride at 562-609-4121.
- Low cost service**
Rides are free for riders ages 50 and over, and low cost for all others.
- Shared Rides**
You may share your trip with other passengers heading in the same direction.

Hours:

- Normal operating hours:**
The service will operate from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.
- Summer Season (Tuesday after Memorial Day to Labor Day):**
The service will run from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

Cost:

- Free** for ages 50+, **\$2.50** for under 50 per trip.

Vehicle Type:

- 100% electric fleet**, including ADA-accessible vehicles.

Service Area:

CITY OF Los Alamitos California

www.cityoflosalamitos.org
562-430-1073

My City ♥ My Los Al

The Los Al Link provides on-demand transportation service within Los Al and to LosAlamitos-Rossmoor Library.

mobile app, which assigns the nearest available vehicle.

The service charges a standard fare of \$2.50, but rides are free for users age 50 and up. Circuit officials say the fare structure reflects the company’s mission to remain the lowest cost option for short distance urban travel. Circuit’s Los Alamitos service runs five days a week for up to 12 hours a day, using ADA-compliant electric vehicles. Trained local drivers will provide

safe, high quality transportation for all riders.

The Los Alamitos service area operates under a five passenger limit per request. Because the system is designed as a pooled transit, riders may share their vehicle with other passengers traveling in the same direction. App requested rides receive priority over passengers attempting to flag down a vehicle curbside.

Los Al Link is structured as an on de-

mand system. Rides cannot be scheduled in advance, and trip times vary depending on vehicle availability. Riders are encouraged to submit requests through the Circuit app at the time they are ready to travel.

Since September 2023, Circuit has partnered closely with Los Alamitos City staff on grant applications and service planning. Recreation and Community Services Director Emeline Noda stated, “The Link was originally envisioned as a portion of the Senior Services Master Plan, but once the idea got rolling it just made sense to expand it to all residents in the City. The program has received positive feedback from our seniors and the rest of the public who use the Link to save time, money, and drive in an environmentally friendly way.”

The updated map ensures full library access and reflects the City’s commitment to expanding mobility options. City Manager Chet Simmons notes, “the City always responds to the residents and this expansion of the program shows the commitment that the City and staff has to being ‘The Best City Ever.’”

Riders can view the revised geofence and download the Ride Circuit app through the City website.

Los Alamitos Releases Mid-Year Budget Report, Approves Added Self-Insurance Costs



Picture left to right: Accountant Sovandany Wang, Finance Assistant Andrea Balderas, Finance Director Craig Koehler, and Finance Manager Barbara Biscocho receiving Recognition for Government Finance Professionals Week.

Los Alamitos City officials released the Fiscal Year 2025–26 Mid-Year General Fund budget report, offering an updated look at revenues, expenditures, and economic conditions as the City approaches the final months of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

The mid-year budget process is an extension of the initial budget adoption process. Staff will check to see whether allocations need to be adjusted based on expenses actually incurred during the fiscal year and provide a report to the City Council for review. This is a normal process that usually shifts funding around based on department needs and economic conditions outside of City control.

The City Council received the report and approved on a \$650,000 appropriation to the City’s Self-Insurance Fund, citing higher premium increases and settlement costs.

The mid-year review provides what staff describes as a “snapshot in time,” reflecting financial activity recorded

through Dec. 31, 2025. The report also includes revised projections for the remainder of the fiscal year. Staff previously presented the material to the Budget Standing Committee on March 2, 2026.

The City adopted a balanced General Fund budget on May 19, 2025, which included \$29.1 million in revenues and \$28.6 million in expenditure. According to the mid-year update, revenues are now expected to come in about \$142,000 below the adopted estimates. Declines in licenses and permits, fines and forfeitures, and charges for services are partially offset by stronger performance in other taxes and investment earnings.

Staff notes that property taxes, Sales and Use Taxes, and Measure Y local sales taxes continue to dominate the City’s revenue base, accounting for more than 70 percent of all General Fund income.

Upon review, Los Alamitos has experienced a slight 0.24 percent decline

in net assessed value for the 2024–25 tax roll, driven largely by reductions in unsecured property assessments. Residential property values, however, grew 5.3 percent. The median sale price for a detached single-family home from December 2024 through August 2025 reached \$1.39 million, a 7.6 percent rise from the prior year. Sales tax revenues remain stable. A January 2026 update showed third-quarter 2025 sales up 10.8 percent compared to countywide trends and 2.2 percent over the same period the prior year. Measure Y, the City’s 1.5 percent local transactions tax approved by voters, is projected to generate \$6.3 million this fiscal year.

On the expenditure side, departments are spending in line with the adopted budget. The largest variances stem from previously approved appropriations and grant-related adjustments. Recreation requires \$218,230 to match funding for an electric vehicle transportation grant approved last year. However, the department is projecting expenditure savings from vacancies and delayed facility openings. Police spending remains on track, though the City will allocate \$75,813 this year for the first installment of a five-year body-worn camera contract. Non-departmental costs will increase by \$52,000 tied to the Council-approved Soroptimist Park renovation. The most significant financial change appears in the City’s Self-Insurance Fund. Staff requested, and the Council approved, a \$650,000 appropriation to cover increased premium costs and settlement payouts. Premiums

rose by \$386,000 due to property and general liability rate increases, while liability and workers’ compensation settlements totaled \$264,000.

The City emphasized that projections may continue to shift based on economic conditions and fiscal performance over the remaining months of the year. Total appropriations approved to date, including recreation, police, non-departmental, gas tax, and self-insurance adjustments, amount to nearly \$1.65 million.

Additionally, the Finance team received the Recognition for Government Finance Professionals award during the March Council Meeting. The Los Alamitos Finance team is the backbone of the City, ensuring that the City remains transparent, fiscally responsible, and prepared for the future under the leadership of Finance Director Craig Koehler.

Director Koehler stated, “The Los Alamitos Finance Department is able to function at such a high level because of its strong collaborative culture. Our small team relies on mutual support and a shared focus on efficiency to deliver consistent, high-quality results.”

Each year, Government Finance Professionals Week recognizes the essential contributions of these dedicated individuals—and highlights the critical role they play in maintaining the financial health of cities.

Much of this work is performed behind the scenes, yet it is foundational to informed policy decisions, transparent governance, and the continued delivery of essential public services.

Mayor Business Spotlight - Max Muscle



Roy Sabat receiving Mayor Business Spotlight certificate for the month of March.

Local residents looking for guidance on fitness, nutrition, and overall wellness have a longstanding resource right in their community: Max Muscle Los Alamitos. For nearly two decades, this locally owned supplement and nutrition store has built a reputation not just for products, but for personalized support and education. Owned by Roy Sabat, the store has deep roots in Los Alamitos. Sabat began working alongside his father when he was 18 years old, and over the past 20 years, he has watched the business grow into a multigenerational hub for health and fitness. Some of Sabat’s earliest customers first came in when they were pregnant. Now those same parents and their kids are coming in themselves to the store for protein and supplements. What sets Max Muscle apart is its emphasis on community and trust. Rather than focusing solely on sales, they prioritize understanding each customer’s individual goals, whether that’s weight loss, muscle building, or simply having more energy for daily life. From student athletes chasing scholarships to veterans maintaining strength, and parents looking for energy to keep up with their children, the clientele reflects a wide cross-section of the Los Alamitos population and surrounding areas. Sabat describes the atmosphere as an extended family, where customer successes are shared and celebrated. When the client succeeds, so does Max Muscle. They’ve seen incredible transformations—people losing significant weight, improving their health, even stories where lifestyle changes have had a positive impact on families. A key part of Max Muscle’s philosophy is keeping things simple and sustainable. Customers are encouraged to first evaluate and improve their diet before turning to supplements. They focus on filling the gaps where needed. Supplements should support your nutrition, not replace it. For those just starting out, they often

recommend three foundational products: a digestive support supplement to aid gut health, a liquid multivitamin designed to help cover essential nutrients often missed in daily diets, and creatine, which is beneficial for all genders, not only for muscle performance but also for brain health according to recent medical studies. Quality control is another cornerstone of the business, to ensure that what is in store is a trustworthy product. Max Muscle carefully selects products based on effectiveness and safety, conducting purity checks and adds additional third-party testing to ensure customers receive reliable supplements. The store is also open to sourcing new or specific products upon request, reinforcing its customer-first approach. Beyond the products, Max Muscle emphasizes accessibility and education. They want people to feel comfortable to come into the store, ask questions, and learn what works best for them and their needs as individuals on their fitness journeys. Max Muscle Los Alamitos is located at 5040 Katella Ave., Los Alamitos, CA, 90720 and are open Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Residents can also connect via Instagram and Facebook at @maxmusclelosalamitos or call (562) 598-1700 for more information. For those seeking a supportive, knowledgeable partner in their fitness journey, this neighborhood staple continues to prove that fitness is more than a goal, it’s a community effort. Which is exactly what the Mayor’s Business Spotlight recognizes as Max Muscle Los Alamitos brings fitness and nutrition to the small-town charm of Los Alamitos no matter what age you are. Visit the City’s website for information on the Mayor’s Business Spotlight program and to find other local small businesses to support in Los Alamitos.

Sunburst Cont.

Continued from Page 1
City Manager Noda stated, “The fields had dirt patches and inconsistencies, but now everything is much more even and well-maintained. It’s made a real difference for the players and their families.” These improvements not only enhance the playing experience but also reflect a broader investment in the league’s future. Founded in 1958, Los Alamitos Youth Baseball has been a cornerstone of the community for generations. The league has served thousands of local families over the decades, fostering a strong sense of tradition and continuity. Many former players return as coaches, volunteers, and board members, reinforcing the league’s deep community roots. Mitchell emphasized that while the operational structure may be evolving, the core mission of the league remains unchanged: to provide a

positive, accessible environment for youth baseball. “We still have that same community spirit,” he said. “If anything, this partnership strengthens it by giving us the support we need to keep going.” The strengthened partnership between the City, LAYB, and JFTB has created new opportunities for continued improvements and long-term planning. City officials and league leadership alike are optimistic that this collaborative approach will not only preserve the program but help it thrive in the years ahead. By combining the dedication of volunteers with the resources and structure of municipal support, the league is positioned to adapt to changing requirements while maintaining its legacy. For Mitchell, the goal is clear: ensure that LAYB remains a fixture in the community for generations to come. “I hope we continue to grow together and keep this going for another 60 years,” he said.

My City My Los Al

Neighborhood

Clean Up Day

Available to Los Alamitos Residents Only

(with valid ID & No walk-ups)

WHERE & WHEN

Saturday, May 16, 2026

8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Corner of Pine Street and Florista Street

For entrance to the drop-off queue, enter off of Los Alamitos Boulevard at Florista Street. Please have your ID showing your Los Alamitos address ready.

FREE RESIDENT DROP OFF:

- Bulky items (i.e. furniture, appliances, bags of trash)
- Electronic equipment (i.e. refrigerators, washer and dryers)
- Electronic waste (i.e. TV, computer, microwave)

FREE PAPER SHREDDING:

- Limit of 4 banker boxes per car
- Excluded items include binders, electronic media, x-rays, and plastic/trash

EXCLUDED ITEMS:

- HHW, Construction Materials, Box Truck Vehicles, and Walk-Ups

In partnership with Universal Waste Systems, Inc. (UWS) The City of Los Alamitos is offering residents a FREE clean up day!

For additional information, please contact City Hall at (562) 431-3538

We’re excited to invite our Los Alamitos neighbors to come together for a Neighborhood Clean Up Day on Saturday, May 16, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. This special event is exclusively for Los Alamitos residents and is a great opportunity to refresh your home while helping keep our community clean and beautiful. In partnership with Universal Waste Systems (UWS), residents will be able to conveniently dispose of bulky items, and electronic waste. Free paper shredding services will also be available, making it easy to safely get rid of sensitive documents. The event will be held at the corner of Pine Street and Florista Street. To ensure a smooth and safe experience, Pine Street at Florista Street will be closed from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Event entry will begin at Los Alamitos Boulevard and Florista Street, just follow the posted route to the admission area. Please remember to bring proof of Los Alamitos residency for entry. We look forward to seeing you there and working together to keep Los Alamitos a wonderful place to live!