



# The Los Al Loop



*Your Source for Los Alamitos Community News.*

Volume 1 Issue 1

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thelosalloop.org

## City of Los Alamitos Residents Approve Measure X



The City of Los Alamitos operates as a charter city as opposed to a general law city. A charter city has a voter-approved document called a charter, which outlines how the city is governed, while state laws govern a general law city. Measure X is an amendment to the Los Alamitos City Charter established in 1966. The amendment was designed to address the modern needs of the City which included Public Works Purchasing Policies, District Term Limits, Campaign Contribution Restrictions, and Lobbyist Regulations for the City.

### Modernizing Public Works Purchasing

The amendment raises the threshold for public works projects that require formal bidding from \$10,000 to \$125,000, indexed against the California Construction Cost Index (CCCI). This adjustment reflects the realities of inflation and increases the City’s ability to handle small-to-mid-size projects more efficiently. The current low threshold, set in 1966, often delays important maintenance and infrastructure improvements, such as pothole repairs and storm damage fixes, due to a cumbersome bidding process. By raising this threshold, the City aims to streamline the procurement process, ensuring that critical projects move forward without unnecessary delays while

maintaining oversight through City Council approvals and public disclosures.

### District Term Limits

The charter amendment also implements district-specific term limits for City Council members. Under the new rules, council members will be allowed to serve up to three consecutive terms in the district where they reside, followed by a one-year cooling-off period before they can seek re-election. This change acknowledges the smaller pool of candidates within each district, while maintaining the principle of term limits, which encourages voter choice and rotation in leadership positions.

### Cleaning Up By-District Election Provisions

With the City’s shift to by-district elections, Measure X also addresses outdated language in the city charter that conflicts with current state laws. The amendment cleans up the charter to reflect the legal requirements of by-district elections, ensuring that the city’s governing document is fully aligned with the current electoral framework.

### Campaign Contribution Restrictions

Measure X also placed a strict \$500 limit on campaign contributions for both companies and individuals supporting candidates for City Council.

This new limit is significantly lower than the cap imposed by state law, further emphasizing the city’s commitment to transparency and reducing the potential for special interest influence in local elections. Additionally, all campaign contributions will be subject to full disclosure under the laws of the California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC).

### Lobbyist Registration Requirements

Another key provision in Measure X is the introduction of a formal lobbyist registration process. The amendment requires that lobbyists—defined as paid representatives engaged by interest groups to influence elected officials—register with the City of Los Alamitos before lobbying City Council members. This measure also mandates that council members disclose any meetings with lobbyists prior to voting on any measures they were lobbied on. This increased level of transparency aims to safeguard the integrity of the City’s decision-making processes and ensure that the interests of the community remain at the forefront.

As Los Alamitos continues to grow and evolve, Measure X represents a major step forward in modernizing the city’s governance, promoting transparency, and enhancing the efficiency of city operations.

## What is the Los Al Loop?

The City of Los Alamitos is excited to announce the launch of its new monthly newsletter, “The Los Al Loop”, a key initiative designed to keep residents informed and engaged with city affairs. This newsletter will offer an exclusive inside look at major events from City Council meetings, updates on important city projects, and insights into the initiatives shaping the future of Los Alamitos. The goal of this new communication platform is to ensure full transparency and give residents a clearer understanding of the inner workings of their city.

With “The Los Al Loop”, residents can expect a concise and informative recap of notable decisions and discussions from City Council meetings, along with regular status updates on ongoing and upcoming projects across the City. Additionally, the newsletter will provide timely notifications of future events and opportunities for community involvement. This first issue marks the beginning of a consistent monthly communication tool that will be delivered directly to every residence in Los Alamitos. For added convenience, additional copies will be available at City Hall, and the newsletter will be accessible online at thelosalloop.org. The website will feature an archive of all past issues, allowing residents to easily refer back to previous newsletters and other important communications for detailed information on city projects and decisions.

“The Los Al Loop” is more than just a newsletter—it’s a direct line of communication between the City and its residents, offering transparency, accountability, and engagement. With this new resource, residents will have the ability to stay up-to-date on everything from city policy changes to public works projects and community events. Whether you’re interested in new developments, local services, or City Council decisions, “The Los Al Loop” will serve as your go-to source for all things Los Alamitos.

### KEEP UP WITH US IN 2025



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# Stay Informed of Everything Los Alamitos



### City Website

The City of Los Alamitos website [www.cityoflosalamitos.org](http://www.cityoflosalamitos.org) is full of valuable information to keep you informed all year long. You can find everything from City Council and Commission Agendas, to City Employment Opportunities, the Municipal Code, Department information from Administration including City Clerk, Finance, Human Resources, Development Services, Police, and Recreation and Community Services. You can find links to services including Fire, Animal Control, Mosquito and Vector Control, Street Sweeping, Trash Collection Services, and Golden State Water. Business information is also listed including Bid Opportunities, Building Safety, a Business Directory, Code Enforcement, Economic Development, and Planning. Featured News information is also listed on the homepage and press releases under “Your City.”



### City Events & Meetings, Community Events Calendar

A City Events & Meetings calendar can be found on the City’s website on the homepage and the Community Events can be found on the Recreation & Community Services page at [www.cityoflosalamitos.org](http://www.cityoflosalamitos.org). Update your social calendar with City events such as Race on the Base, Weekend of Art, Elevate Teen Expo, Spring Carnival, Senior Prom, 3rd of July Fireworks Spectacular, Summer Concert Series, Elevate Senior Expo, Celebrate Los Al, Elevate Women’s Conference, Trunk or Treat, Winter Wonderland, Decorating Contests, Parklet Series, Nights on Pine, Good Morning or Good Evening Los Al, Coffee With a Cop, City meetings, and local Los Alamitos-based service non-profit community events for the coming year of 2025.



### Weekly E-Newsletter and Social Media

Sign up for our weekly E-Newsletter on the City’s website and receive emails with important information about upcoming Los Alamitos events, programs, and services. Follow us on social media @cityoflosal and @losalamitospd on Instagram and Facebook for the latest updates and happenings in the City of Los Alamitos.



### My Los Al App

Need to submit a Service Request or report an issue? Download and use the My Los Al app for easy access and to receive the latest updates on your request. My Los Al is your easy and convenient way to report an issue, and submit a concern for topics including animals, building-related issues, City or Public Property, health and safety, landscaping, property maintenance, public nuisance, public right-of-way, short-term rental violations, streets & traffic (i.e. potholes), and zoning violations or issues.



### My Los Al Engage

A citizen engagement platform [mylosalengage.com](http://mylosalengage.com) is available for you to sign up and receive notifications regarding significant development projects as an important part of our efforts to improve inclusion and transparency. Our goal is to ensure our community is aware of projects occurring in the City and know where to look for information and be able to participate as an active citizen in the public input process.



### Monthly Newsletter

Stay informed about all the latest happenings in Los Alamitos with The Local Loop! The Local Loop is a monthly newsletter that will provide residents with up-to-date information on City events, programs, and services. From community festivals and recreational activities to City Council meetings and essential updates, The Local Loop ensures that you’re always in the loop. Whether it’s about upcoming holiday celebrations, workshops, or public service announcements, this newsletter is your go-to source for staying connected with the City of Los Alamitos.

# Laurel Park Reopens with New Fencing, Adds Pickeball Courts, Resurfaced Tennis Courts



Tennis player enjoying the newly resurfaced courts at Laurel Park.

The City of Los Alamitos has completed replacing fencing and resurfacing the tennis courts at Laurel Park. As part of this project, city officials approved the solicitation of bids for installing a new chain-link fence and resurfacing the tennis courts. These updates will enhance player experiences and modernize the heavily used facilities. Staff received approval from the City Council to release the Request for Proposal (RFP) 2024-02 “Laurel Park Tennis Court Fence Replacement Project” during the April 15, 2024, meeting. Releasing an RFP is the formal bidding process that Los Alamitos uses to conduct work fairly and transparently. This RFP sought contractors to replace the aging chain-link fence surrounding the courts. The fence was over 10 years old and showed significant wear and tear from the elements. The new fencing and windscreen will provide a fresh look and enhance gameplay by offering improved visibility for players. The RFP outlined the scope of work, which included removing and installing 730 feet of 12-foot-high black vinyl-coated chain link fence around the court perimeter, installing new gates, and applying city-approved logos to windscreen sections.

In addition to the fencing replacement, the city also moved forward with the Laurel Park Tennis Court Resurfacing Project (RFP No. 2024-03). The resurfacing included repairs to the court surface, applying a new paint scheme, and installing new benches with shade coverings. One tennis court was converted into two pickleball courts, reflecting the sport’s growing popularity. Harris Steel Fence Co., Inc. was selected to carry out the fence replacement. Trueline Construction & Surfacing, Inc. won the contract for resurfacing the courts. Both projects were budgeted as part of the City’s adopted Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Capital Improvement Program. Once the projects were completed, the City proudly hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony on January 9, 2025, to celebrate the improvements. Mayor Shelley Hasselbrink enthusiastically stated, “The Laurel Park tennis and pickleball courts are a dedicated space where everyone can enjoy the game.” Council Members and Commissioners present had the honor of breaking in the new courts with a friendly game of pickleball. These upgrades are expected to greatly enhance the recreational facilities at Laurel Park, benefiting the community for years to come.

# Lampson Project Parcel Map Approved

The recording of the final map represents the next major milestone in the subdivision and development process for 4655 Lampson Ave, and the city will move forward with the process as planned. This subdivision is expected to bring new residential opportunities to the area, enhancing the local real estate market and contributing to the city’s growth. The Los Alamitos City Council adopted Resolution No. 2024-45, paving the way for the subdivision of property located at 4655 Lampson Avenue. This resolution approved Tentative Parcel Map 2022-133, along with Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 19263. The approval of the final parcel map is a key requirement set forth by both Resolution No. 2024-45 and the Los Alamitos Municipal Code Section 16.06.050, in compliance with Sec-

tion 66426 of the California Government Code (Subdivision Map Act). The developer has prepared the final map for the proposed subdivision, which has now been submitted to the City for further approval. The City Engineer has reviewed the final parcel map and associated documentation, confirming that it meets the criteria laid out in the Tentative Parcel Map and satisfies all conditions required for approval. This assessment by the City Engineer indicates substantial compliance with both the Tentative Parcel Map and the stipulated conditions of the approval process. In addition, the County of Orange Surveyor’s Office has certified the technical correctness of Parcel Map 2022-133. The office has verified that the map adheres to the provisions of the Subdivision Map Act.

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(562) 431-3538

**Los Alamitos Community Center**  
10911 Oak Street, Los Alamitos CA 90720  
(562) 430-1073

**Los Alamitos Police Department**  
3201 Katella Ave, Los Alamitos CA 90720  
(562) 594-7232

# City Finance Department Awarded GFOA Excellence in Financial Reporting FY2021-2022

The City of Los Alamitos' Finance Department has once again demonstrated its dedication to fiscal responsibility and transparency by earning the prestigious Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States for its 2021-2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). This exceptional recognition, consistently awarded to the City every year since 2015, is a testament to its unwavering commitment to upholding the highest standards of financial integrity and accountability.

As part of this thorough process, an independent audit of the City's finances is conducted each year to ensure that the financial statements fully comply with the strict guidelines outlined by generally accepted auditing standards (GAAS). This annual audit, carried out by an independent Certified Public Accountant, involves a detailed and comprehensive examination of the City's financial position, its operations, and its overall fiscal health. The CPA not only reviews the accuracy of the financial reports but also assesses the City's internal controls and accounting practices to identify any potential risks or discrepancies. This meticulous review is essential for maintain-



Los Alamitos GFOA Excellence in Financial Report Award plaque.

ing the integrity and transparency of the City's financial reporting, providing reassurance to both city officials and the public that the City's finances are managed responsibly and in accordance with the highest professional standards. By adhering to GAAS, the City demonstrates its commitment to transparency, accountability, and fiscal responsibility. This ongoing commitment to transparency, accountability, and prudent financial management reflects the City's focus on maintaining the trust of its residents and stakeholders. It underscores the professionalism and dedication of the Finance Department, whose tireless efforts continue to ensure that the City of Los Alamitos is financially sound.

## OCFA and Los Alamitos Remain Vigilant Through Extended CA Fire Season



In response to Los Angeles County's unprecedented fire event, the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) has sent hundreds of firefighters and high-tech tools to assist firefighting efforts. The tragedy has raised questions about the potential of a massive fire striking Orange County and City of Los Alamitos.

Los Alamitos city leaders have been working with OCFA and other regional agencies to ensure the community is constantly updated on the latest weather conditions. Just as important, City Staff is collaborating with OCFA to make sure that the City is "fire-ready" or prepared should a similar natural disaster happen in Orange County.

OCFA Division Chief Craig Covey said, "OCFA Chief Brian Fennessy prioritizes wildfire preparedness and

response as it's the greatest threat to mass life and property loss in Orange County." Fremont Canyon, off California State Route 241, is one of the windiest canyons in the county, where winds recently reached 94 mph during a weather event. Chief Covey explained, during the recent Council meeting, that it takes a combination of fuel, weather, and topography to be in alignment to be vulnerable to firestorms like that in Los Angeles County. "Los Alamitos will never experience the kind of conditions that were faced in those environments..."

In response to the red flag and fire weather warnings, OCFA extended prepositioned resources around the County to be prepared and protected during extreme weather conditions. Fire personnel remain up-staffed and ready to defend the County with every fire engine and fighter fire stationed to move at a moments notice. As an example of OCFA's preparation, two fast-moving fires in Aliso Woods Canyon and Mission Viejo were squelched during the recent weather events. Both fires were contained in minutes thanks to the up-staffed resources. No damage or injuries were reported. Chief Covey went on to explain that OCFA remains vigilant all year round.

# Sir Speedy Honored as Legacy Business in the Los Alamitos Community



Sir Speedy, a beloved and longtime printing service provider in Los Alamitos, made history on December 16, 2024, as the first business to be honored with the prestigious Los Alamitos Legacy Business Award. This special recognition, presented during the City Council meeting, is a new initiative aimed at celebrating the resilience, contributions, and commitment of businesses that have thrived in the city for at least 25 years. For decades, Sir Speedy has been a reliable fixture in the community, earning its place as the inaugural recipient of this coveted award. For over a quarter of a century, Sir Speedy has stood as a pillar of Los Alamitos' business community. From providing essential, high-quality printing services to local residents, organizations, and businesses, to participating in city events and initiatives, the company has truly embedded itself into the fabric of the city. The atmosphere during the award presentation was filled with appreciation and respect. Deputy City Manager Ron Noda, speaking on behalf of the City, emphasized how crucial small businesses like Sir Speedy are to the success and vitality of the community. "Small businesses are the backbone of what we do here," Noda remarked, highlighting how such establishments help shape the identity of the city, while also providing essential services that fuel the local economy.

The Los Alamitos Legacy Business Award not only acknowledges the longevity of a business but also rec-

ognizes its deep-rooted connections within the community. Sir Speedy's selection as the first honoree is a testament to the company's enduring presence and unwavering commitment to Los Alamitos. This recognition serves as a reminder that behind every thriving business lies a team of dedicated individuals who care deeply about the success and well-being of the community they call home. Accepting the award on behalf of Sir Speedy was Shawn McLean, who expressed heartfelt gratitude for this recognition. With genuine humility, McLean thanked the City Council and staff for their unwavering support over the years. He shared that owning and operating a small business in Los Alamitos has been a rewarding experience, made even more special by the city's sense of camaraderie and community spirit. His words underscored the close-knit bond between local businesses and the city's leadership, a relationship built on mutual respect and a shared commitment to creating a thriving local economy.

As the first recipient of this distinguished honor, Sir Speedy has set a high standard for future awardees. Their legacy is one of resilience, community involvement, and an unwavering dedication to excellence. This award not only celebrates the company's success but also the supportive environment fostered by the City of Los Alamitos—a place where businesses can thrive, grow, and become integral to the community's identity.

<b>Administration</b> City Manager - Chet Simmons Administrative Services Manager - Chelsi Wilson City Clerk/Director of Communications- Windmera Quintanar, MMC
<b>Development Services (Dev Svcs)</b> Dev Svcs Director/Deputy City Manager - Ron Noda Dev Svcs Manager - Irving Montengro
<b>Finance</b> Director of Finance - Craig Koehler Finance Manager - Barbara Biscocho
<b>Police Department</b> Chief of Police - Michael Claborn Operations Captain - Luke South Administrative/Investigation Captain - Kain Gallagher
<b>Recreation &amp; Community Services (RCS)</b> Director of RCS/Director of Intergovernmental Affairs - Emeline Noda Recreation Manager - Jennifer Sisoiev Recreation Manager - Jason Bruton

# Bloomfield Street Improvement Completed

The City of Los Alamitos used Federal funding from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRR-SAA) to complete the Bloomfield Street Improvement Project (BSIP). This funding source is one of many that the City Council and Staff have brought back to the City to improve its infrastructure.

The BSIP is a portion of the ongoing citywide pavement management program and focuses on a grind and overlay of the asphalt pavement. A grind and overlay project is less invasive and can be completed quicker than a full curb-to-curb renovation. The project also replaced damaged curb & gutter and lifted sidewalk to correct drainage. ADA curb ramps were also modified to current codes as necessary for accessibility. The BSIP reconstruction of failing asphalt, reconstruction of damaged curb ramps, and construction of new curb ramps on Bloomfield Street from Katella Avenue to Florista Street. In addition, the project also included adjustments of existing utility surface facilities to grade as well as signing and striping. The project was completed, and the City Council authorized a Notice of



Bloomfield Street post renovation.



Bloomfield Street before renovation.

Completion (NOC) at the May 20, 2024 City Council Meeting. The City will continue to complete projects similar to this guided by the Pavement Management Plan (PMP) filed yearly. The PMP identifies the pavement grade of city streets on a scale from 0 to 100. The goal of the City is to have a pavement average that allows residents and visitors to travel safely on Los Alamitos residential and arterial streets.

# Los Alamitos Community Center Re-Opens



The newly renovated Los Alamitos Community Center.

The Civic Center complex, which includes the Community Center, Police Department, and Fire Station 2, has remained largely unchanged since their construction in the 1960s and 1970s. Over the years, these facilities have served as important hubs for local activities, city services, and community engagement, but by 2023, the aging structures were in desperate need of repair. The situation became critical when a severe winter storm in 2023 caused significant damage to the Community Center, severely impacting key areas like the kitchens, activity rooms, walls, electrical systems, and floors. The roof, which sustained serious damage, left the building vulnerable to further deterioration, prompting immediate attention from city leaders. Recognizing the importance of the Community Center to residents, the City was able to secure a grant for \$2.5 from the state. This generous allocation enabled the City to completely transform the Community

Center into a modern, fully functional facility that meets the evolving needs of the community. On October 4, 2024, the newly renovated Community Center was proudly rededicated in a ceremony celebrating its transformation. The upgrades were extensive, including a brand-new roof, resilient flooring designed for long-term durability, and fresh interior and exterior painting to breathe new life into the building. Modern lighting and state-of-the-art audio/visual technologies were also installed to support a variety of programs and events, making the center more versatile and inviting for all. The renovated facility now features a dedicated dance room, a beautifully redesigned lobby, upgraded kitchen facilities, and improved accessibility for citizens with disabilities, ensuring that the center is welcoming and functional for everyone. Even the exterior received attention, with fresh landscaping and a new look as visitors enter the center.

# Various Street Improvements Completed

The City has completed the Street Improvements on Various Streets Projects and the Signing and Striping Improvements on Los Alamitos Boulevard this year. These projects are a part of the City’s ongoing pavement management program. Improvements include a grind, overlay and slurry seal various residential streets throughout the City. The project also replaced damaged curb & gutter and lifted sidewalk to correct drainage.

## Street Improvements on Various Streets

The City Council approved the plans and specifications for the Street Improvements on Various Streets Project in December 2023. An updated plan was taken to the Traffic Commission in July 2024 and a construction contract for the project was approved in August 2024. As a part of the City’s ongoing pavement management program, the City of Los Alamitos proposes to grind and overlay and slurry seal various residential streets throughout the City. The project will also replace damaged curb & gutter and lifted sidewalk to correct drainage. ADA curb ramps will be modified to current codes as necessary for accessibility. This project will improve 25 residential streets.



Newly paved bike lanes on Bloomfield Avenue.

the Signing and Striping Improvements on Los Alamitos Boulevard between Katella Avenue to Coyote Creek Trail in November 2023. The striping project will install highly visible bicycle lanes, improving safety for both bicyclist and pedestrians. A revised plan and specifications for the Signing and Striping Improvements project was presented to the Traffic Commission in January 2024 based on comments made during the November meeting. The City Council approved the plans and specifications for the project in March 2024. The project was placed on BidNet from April to May 2024 which resulted in the City Council approving the construction contract for the Signing and Striping Improvements on Los Alamitos Boulevard between Katella Avenue and Coyote Creek Trail to WGJ Enterprises Inc., doing business as PCI, for a total of \$82,148.25. Work primarily took place at night to allow traffic flow to remain open in each direction along Los Alamitos Boulevard. Driveways remained open, except for the brief time that the striping was being sprayed in front of driveways. The work began in October 2024 and was completed in November 2024.



Picture of Los Alamitos Blvd project with new striping.

## Signing and Striping

The Traffic Commission was presented the plans and specifications for



Bloomfield Avenue with new striping that improves safety for residents and visitors to the City.