



The Los Al Loop



Your Source for Los Alamitos Community News.

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Randy Hill Honored at Americana Awards for Decades of Service



Various pictures of Randy Hill and his family throughout the years participating in various events.

Randy Hill, a devoted Los Alamitos resident, has spent decades dedicating his time and talents to improving his community through various leadership roles and volunteer efforts. His deep commitment to service has touched many aspects of local life, from youth sports to educational initiatives, and continues to inspire those around him. Hill's journey in community service began with Los Alamitos Youth Baseball, where he served as a coach, team manager, and board member for over 11 years, including a term as President. His passion for mentoring young athletes extended beyond baseball, as he also coached in the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO), National Junior Basketball (NJB), and flag football programs. In addition to sports, Hill took an active role in his sons' education. Noticing the absence of male teachers at their elementary school, he stepped in as a substitute teacher, providing a positive male presence in the classroom. Hill has also been a long-standing member of several boards, playing a key role in organizations that support education, local media, and community development. For nine years, he served on the Los Alamitos Education Foundation (LAEF), including

a term as President, and continues to contribute as part of the Leadership Circle and Board Emeritus. His dedication to high school sports also led him to serve on the Los Alamitos High School Baseball and Football Booster Clubs, supporting athletic programs. Today, Hill continues to serve on several influential boards, including St. Isidore Historical Plaza and the Griffin Football Foundation. He is also an active member of the Los Alamitos, Cypress, and Seal Beach Rotary Club, where he currently serves as the Mayor Pro Tem of the board and Youth Director. In this role, he supports Interact Clubs at Los Alamitos High School and Cypress High School, helping young leaders engage in service projects to develop valuable leadership skills. Beyond his board memberships, Hill volunteers as a Traffic Commissioner for the City of Los Alamitos. His extensive involvement in these organizations has allowed him to build meaningful relationships with others who share his passion for service while giving back to a community that has supported his family. In addition to his local contributions, Hill and his wife, Diana, are avid travelers, exploring the world together

and expanding their perspectives through new experiences. For them, travel is more than just a leisure activity; it is a way to learn, grow, and appreciate the diversity of cultures and landscapes around the globe. Hill's lifelong dedication to his community—whether through youth sports, education, or civic engagement—has made a lasting impact on Los Alamitos. His leadership and volunteerism reflect his deep appreciation for the city and its people. The Americana Awards honor Hill for his commitment to the community and the service he continues to provide.



Americana Awards Honoree Randy Hill.

Upcoming Events Calendar

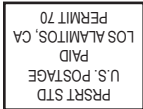
City Meetings

- City Council Meeting
Date: April 28
Time: 6 PM
- Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission Meeting
Date: June 4
Time: 7 PM
- Planning Commission Meeting
Date: April 23
Time: 7 PM
- Traffic Commission Meeting
Date: May 14
Time: 7 PM

City Events

- Spring Carnival
Date: April 19, 2025
Time: 9:30 AM - 12 PM
Location: Little Cottonwood Park
- Spring Break Camp
Date: April 21-25, 2025
Time: 9 AM - 4 PM Regular & 7 AM - 6 PM Extended
Location: Los Alamitos Community Center
- Arbor Day/Compost & Mulch
Date: April 26, 2025
Time: 9 AM - 12 PM
Location: Little Cottonwood Park
- Senior Prom
Date: May 3, 2025
Time: 3 PM - 6 PM
Location: Los Alamitos Community Center
- Neighborhood Clean Up
Date: May 17, 2025
Time: 8 AM- 11 AM
Location: Pine Street

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



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Los Alamitos Adopts Five-Year Economic Development Plan to Drive Future Growth



The City of Los Alamitos officially adopted its Five-Year Economic Development Strategic Plan (EDSP) with Resolution No. 2025-10 at the March 24, 2025, City Council meeting. This detailed plan, which will guide the city’s growth and development from 2025 to 2030, is focused on bolstering the local economy, enhancing residents’ quality of life, and ensuring long-term sustainability. The EDSP was created collaboratively with City Council members, city staff, and local residents. The City Council carefully reviewed and adopted the draft version of the EDSP, which underscores a critical commitment to maintaining the city’s cherished open spaces and parklands. City officials stressed that no parkland will be converted for commercial or residential development without the creation of additional parkland to off-

set the impact. This assurance is part of a broader effort to ensure that the city’s growth remains aligned with community values and preserves the natural spaces residents treasure. At the heart of the EDSP are four primary goals: fostering economic growth, enhancing public investment, creating job opportunities, and establishing vibrant shopping and entertainment districts. These objectives are intended to promote financial stability through mixed-use developments, stimulate job creation, expand housing opportunities, and attract consumer spending from residents, workers, and visitors. The plan also calls for integrating an economic development mindset into all city operations, ensuring that every initiative considers its impact. The EDSP outlines a series of strategic objectives to support these goals.

These includes leveraging Los Alamitos’ strengths, improving the city’s business-friendly environment, and exploring innovative approaches to attract private investment. Among the top priorities highlighted in the plan are the development of the Pine Street District as part of the Town Center Mixed-Use Strategic Plan, improvements to the Civic Center Campus, strengthening relationships with businesses through the Business Stakeholder Alliance, and maintaining the city’s ongoing commitment to economic development programs. The creation of the EDSP was driven by extensive community input, with local residents playing a key role in shaping its priorities. City Council members conducted interviews, resident surveys were distributed at community events, and workshops such as “Good Morning, Los Alamitos” provided forums for discussion and feedback. City officials have also clarified that the EDSP is intended to be a flexible, living document that can adapt over time. The plan’s priorities and objectives may evolve as new challenges and opportunities emerge. The city will continue to engage with residents, local businesses, and other stakeholders to review and update the plan to ensure it remains responsive to the community’s needs. In addition to its growth-focused ob-

jectives, the EDSP recognizes the value of Los Alamitos’ current assets, including its high-performing Los Alamitos Unified School District, robust Recreation and Community Services programs, and strong public safety provided by the Los Alamitos Police Department and the Orange County Fire Authority. UCI Health - Los Alamitos, the city’s largest employer, is also recognized as a key player in the city’s economic landscape, contributing to the local economy and the well-being of residents. The EDSP is a comprehensive roadmap for Los Alamitos’ sustainable growth and economic prosperity over the next five years. Its strategic priorities will guide the city’s development efforts while safeguarding the values and resources that make the community unique. More information about the EDSP can be found on the city’s official website, contacting the Development Services Department, or by following the link from QR code below.



Guest Spotlight: Los Alamitos VIPs Support Police, Strengthen Neighborhood Bonds

By: Art Remnet
Volunteer in Policing (VIP)

The Los Alamitos Police Department’s motto, “Every Hour, Every Day,” captures the essence of its commitment to the community. For those seeking an insider’s view of law enforcement, opportunities exist to witness the department’s daily operations, though none quite as unique as through the Volunteers in Policing (VIP) program. This program allows community members like myself to play an active role while experiencing the inner workings of law enforcement firsthand. Our duties are diverse, with each day presenting new tasks. We frequently make court runs, delivering and picking up documents from one of the Orange County Superior Courts,

or manage interdepartmental mail. We also engage in community patrols, driving our VIP vehicle around the city to provide vacation checks, maintain a visible presence, and interact with local residents. Additionally, we participate in community events, proudly donning our uniforms and badges, where we interact with citizens and promote preparedness for emergencies. Our efforts strengthen the connection between the department and the people we serve. VIPs also assist in various areas within the department, such as supporting crime scene investigations through access control log duties or helping the Records Division with filings. Every day presents a new opportunity to contribute to the department’s success, and our work plays an important role in the community’s



From left to right: Records Specialist Belinda Roman, VIP Randy Smith, VIP Dan Patz, VIP Anna Bilyk, Photo Enforcement Officer Lizet Salinas, and Training and Special Events Coordinator Nicole Saiz.



VIPs graduating the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program.

overall safety. Community engagement events are particularly rewarding. VIPs help wherever needed, offering guidance, answering questions, and fostering relationships between law enforcement and residents. These occasions allow us to bridge the gap between officers and the community while showing that the police department is there for everyone. One of the most insightful experiences for VIPs is participating in ride-alongs. These rides give us a chance to spend several hours with an officer during their patrols, responding to calls and experiencing the service they provide. It offers a rare glimpse into the challenges and complexities of policing in today’s world, and it

has completely reshaped my perspective on law enforcement and the dedicated professionals who serve. The camaraderie among the VIPs, as well as with other members of the police department, makes this experience even more rewarding. Sharing stories, exchanging life lessons, and creating lasting bonds are highlights of the program. The officers consistently express their appreciation for our support, and it’s clear that our contributions are valued. Volunteering as a VIP isn’t just about giving time, it’s about gaining perspective. It’s an opportunity to see the human side of law enforcement, and to realize that every interaction, every detail, plays a role in ensuring community safety.

Los Al Adopts Legislative Platform



The City of Los Alamitos has taken a significant step in shaping its future by adopting Resolution 2025-09, which introduces the 2025 Los Alamitos Legislative Platform. This platform, a comprehensive strategy designed to strengthen the City’s involvement in the legislative process, will guide City officials as they engage at local, state, and federal levels. The City Council’s approval marks an essential milestone in advancing Los Alamitos’ long-term goals by ensuring streamlined decision-making, consistent advocacy, and protection of key interests.

The newly adopted platform will serve as a vital tool for the City Manager and staff, providing clear direction on high-priority issues and enhancing real-time advocacy efforts. By doing so, it positions the City to better secure grant funding and gain legislative support in the coming years. The platform underscores the importance of legislative advocacy in achieving the City’s objectives, with a strong focus on protecting local control, opposing unfunded mandates, and promoting economic development.

One of the key features of the platform is its forward-thinking approach. It outlines a clear roadmap for City leaders to engage effectively with lawmakers and policymakers, ensuring that Los Alamitos remains competitive in securing regional, state, and federal resources. The City’s Executive Team, led by the City Manager and the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, will review and update the platform every two years to stay aligned with the state’s legislative cycle. This biennial review will enable the City to adjust its priorities and policies in response to evolving community needs and legislative changes.

The platform’s benefits are numerous. It streamlines decision-making by offering clear guidelines based on the City’s priorities, allowing the City Manager and staff to quickly address legislative issues as they arise. This results in more efficient responses to deadlines and advocacy opportunities. Additionally, the platform ensures consistent advocacy efforts, creating a unified stance on key issues,

which in turn strengthens the City’s influence when engaging with lawmakers. By supporting policies that preserve local governance, opposing unfunded mandates, and protecting the City’s revenue base, the platform promotes financial stability, allowing Los Alamitos to maintain its fiscal health while delivering essential services to residents.

In addition to these advantages, the platform positions Los Alamitos to compete more effectively for regional, state, and federal funding. With clear legislative priorities in place, the City will be better equipped to secure funding for vital projects and services, ranging from infrastructure improvements to community development initiatives. The platform also solidifies Los Alamitos’ role as a leader in local government advocacy, enhancing its ability to collaborate with external partners and boosting its reputation throughout Orange County and beyond.

The 2025 Legislative Platform focuses on several critical areas that impact the City’s long-term prosperity and well-being. These include fiscal and organizational stability, corridor revitalization, economic development, housing, environmental quality, public safety, homeland security, revenue and taxation, transportation, infrastructure, partnerships with the Joint Forces Training Base, workforce development, public health, and community engagement. Each City department played a crucial role in developing the platform, ensuring that it reflects organizational values and aligns with broader policy initiatives such as the 2035 General Plan. The platform also draws on input from leading organizations like the League of California Cities to ensure its effectiveness and relevance in a wider legislative context.

The full 2025 Legislative Platform is available for public viewing on the City of Los Alamitos website, offering transparency and insight into the City’s legislative priorities and goals. Residents and stakeholders are encouraged to review the platform to better understand how the City plans to address future challenges and opportunities.

Los Alamitos High School Football Partners with Youth Development Football Team



Los Alamitos Chief of Police/Coach Michael Claborn walking the field with the boys Red Football Team.

Los Alamitos High School is renowned for its long-standing tradition of excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts—a standard it has upheld for many years. This impressive track record continued during the 2022-2023 school year, as the school secured 14 league championships across various sports, followed by 13 more championships the following year. Head Football Coach Ray Fenton, who has nearly 40 years of experience, has been instrumental in building and maintaining the program’s success. However, sustaining that level of achievement is just as challenging as reaching it in the first place. After years of effort, a breakthrough came when the Los Alamitos Pop Warner program partnered with the high school football team. Led by Pop Warner President Allan Stone and the high school coaching staff, this collaboration introduced a multi-phase strategy designed to familiarize young athletes with the high school program early on. The first phase established the Los Alamitos Football Club (LAFC), organized by high school offensive coordinator TJ Fenton. LAFC’s teams participated in seven-on-seven tournaments, adopting the high school’s playbook and practice style. The club’s teams, coached by Andy

Zaky and Police Chief Michael Claborn, completed their inaugural season with seventh-grade athletes. The next phase will involve closer collaboration between high school and Pop Warner coaches, with clinics and training sessions designed to align coaching strategies. Ultimately, the goal is to prepare these young athletes to seamlessly transition into the high school football program. High school players have also actively volunteered as coaches for LAFC, including standout athletes Taeden Rogers and Jackson Raguse. Both players dedicated their time without compensation, demonstrating leadership and commitment to developing the next generation of players. The Los Alamitos football program follows the motto D.I.G., which stands for Dignity, Integrity, and Grace. Coach Fenton reflected on the significance of this motto, stating, “Some of life’s greatest lessons come from the mistakes we all have made. True growth happens through redemption and forgiveness, and that can be transformational.” On Rogers and Raguse, he added, “They are fierce competitors who lead with character both on the field and in the community. Their impact on the program ... will be felt long after their playing days are over.”

Administration City Manager - Chet Simmons Administrative Services Manager - Chelsi Wilson City Clerk/Director of Communications- Windmera Quintanar, MMC
Development Services (Dev Svcs) Director of Dev Svcs/Deputy City Manager - Ron Noda Dev Svcs Manager - Irving Montenegro
Finance Director of Finance - Craig Koehler Finance Manager - Barbara Biscocho
Police Department Chief of Police - Michael Claborn Operations Captain - Luke South Administrative/Investigation Captain - Kain Gallagher Support Svcs Manager - Robert Acosta
Recreation & Community Services (RCS) Director of RCS/Director of Intergovenmental Affairs - Emeline Noda Recreation Manager - Jennifer Sisoev Recreation Manager - Jason Bruton

Los Alamitos Approves 2023-2024 ACFR

The City of Los Alamitos has presented its fiscal year 2023-24 audit reports, which include an independent review of the City’s financial records and operations. The City Council received and filed these reports as part of the City’s commitment to transparency and fiscal responsibility at the March 24th City Council Meeting. Each year, the City undergoes an independent audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards (GAAS). The audit is designed to ensure that the City’s financial statements are accurate and free of material misstatements. The auditor, Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott (RAMS), has once again expressed an opinion on the fairness of the City’s financial position, confirming that it aligns with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). This year marks the second consecutive year RAMS has audited Los Alamitos’ financial records. The audit results have been thoroughly reviewed by internal staff, audit firm partners, and the City’s Budget Standing Committee. The City was awarded the prestigious Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for its Annual Comprehensive

Financial Report (ACFR) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, affirming the City’s dedication to high standards of fiscal management. While the award is valid for one year, City staff believes the current fiscal year 2023-24 ACFR will meet the award program’s requirements and plans to submit it again for recognition. The audit noted two findings carried over from the prior year, both related to temporary inconsistencies in accounting processes due to the vacancy of the Finance Manager position. The City’s reliance on interim staffing during the audit process led to some challenges, but with the hiring of a new Finance Manager in mid-November, these issues are being addressed. The Finance Manager is now responsible for overseeing the audit processes and ensuring all areas are managed effectively moving forward. The audit also included a Report on Internal Controls (SAAS 114), which highlighted the corrections made by management for any noted misstatements. These adjustments were detailed in the attached letters to RAMS and are part of the City’s effort to maintain strong internal controls and financial oversight.

A Tree-mendous Arbor Day at Los Alamitos

The City of Los Alamitos is home to over 2,000 trees, and its urban canopy provides shade and cooling. This Arbor Day, the City continues its commitment to expanding the urban forest canopy and improving the community’s quality of life by planting even more trees at the Arbor Day event on April 26, 2025. The event will be comprised of two parts: a Compost and Mulch Giveaway and the Arbor Day Celebration. The giveaway will start at 9 a.m. and end at 10 a.m. while the Arbor Day Celebration will begin at 10 a.m. and end at noon. The Public Works Division, along with City personnel, will be planting new trees to enhance the urban forest. These efforts not only beautify the city but also contribute to energy conservation, stormwater management, and increased property values. Residents are encouraged to take part in this community-building event, showing support for the environment by caring for trees throughout the City. This year’s celebration will be packed with family-friendly activities, including eco-friendly arts and crafts, a bounce house for the kids, and face painting. You’ll also have the chance to plant a brand-new tree sponsored by Epson and take home tree seedlings to plant.



Public Works employees planting and securing a tree during a previous Arbor Day event in Los Alamitos.

In partnership with Universal Waste Systems (UWS), the City will be giving away free compost and mulch to Los Alamitos residents. Each household with a valid ID can receive two pre-bagged bags of compost and mulch. This drive-thru event runs from 9 a.m. - 10 a.m., and is first come, first served. Join your neighbors in making Los Alamitos greener and healthier by participating in this year’s Arbor Day events. Whether you’re planting trees, picking up compost, or enjoying earth-friendly activities with your family, it’s a great opportunity to give back to nature. For more information, contact the Development Services Department.

UWS Race on the Base Delivers Thrills for Los Alamitos Community



The first round of participants starting their 5k Run/Walk at the Los Alamitos Joint Forces Training Base (JFTB) flanked by service members stationed at the JFTB.

The much-anticipated Universal Waste Systems (UWS) Race on the Base made its return on Saturday, March 1, 2025. Organized in collaboration with the City of Los Alamitos Recreation and Community Services Department and the Los Alamitos Joint Forces Training Base (JFTB), the event featured a Reverse Sprint Triathlon and a 5K Run/Walk. Participants of all ages showcased their endurance and determination, making for an exhilarating day of fitness and fun. Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Fox and Recreation Manager Jason Bruton administered the event, with the assistance of Los Alamitos Recreation

Staff, who began setting up in the early morning the day before the event. This year, UWS was the title sponsor, with additional sponsorship coming from Financial Partners Credit Union, The Family Plumber, and Motivated by Lisa. The event’s setup began early on Friday, February 28, with paths cleared and the transition area secured for the race. The Recreation Staff, vendors, and event partners spent the afternoon welcoming participants eager to pick up their race bibs and finalize their registration. Race day arrived excitedly as participants and spectators gathered at the Joint Forces Training Base. The

sun began to rise as athletes completed their warm-ups, getting ready for the Reverse Sprint Triathlon and 5K. With Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Fox signaling the start, the Triathlon kicked off at 7:00 a.m., followed by the 5K at 7:15 a.m. The day was filled with impressive performances, with 14-year-old Evan Weitzman from Newport Beach finishing first in the 5K, clocking in at 18:15. He was followed by 23-year-old Brian Rogers from Los Alamitos, finishing with a time of 18:44. Triathlon athletes also delivered strong performances, with Todd Corley from Westlake Village taking first place in the first wave, finishing with a time of

54:48. In the second wave, Kyle Vestermark from Aliso Viejo came out on top, completing the race in 1:08:48. The base gym also remained open throughout the event, offering participants and spectators valuable resources on health, wellness, and U.S. military family services. Vendors and partners such as Braithwaite Chiropractic, Nutrishop, and United Services Organization (USO) were present, along with others providing a variety of services. The event welcomed over 2,000 attendees, including approximately 1,000 athletes, making it another successful collaboration between the Los Alamitos JFTB and the City of Los Alamitos. As the Race on the Base officially kicks off the event season, residents can look forward to more exciting events, including the 3rd of July Fireworks Spectacular! For more information about upcoming events and programs, visit www.cityoflosalamitos.org/recreation or contact the Recreation and Community Services Department at (562) 430-1073.



The second round of participants waiting to start their 5k Run/Walk during the Race on the Base event.