



The Los Al Loop



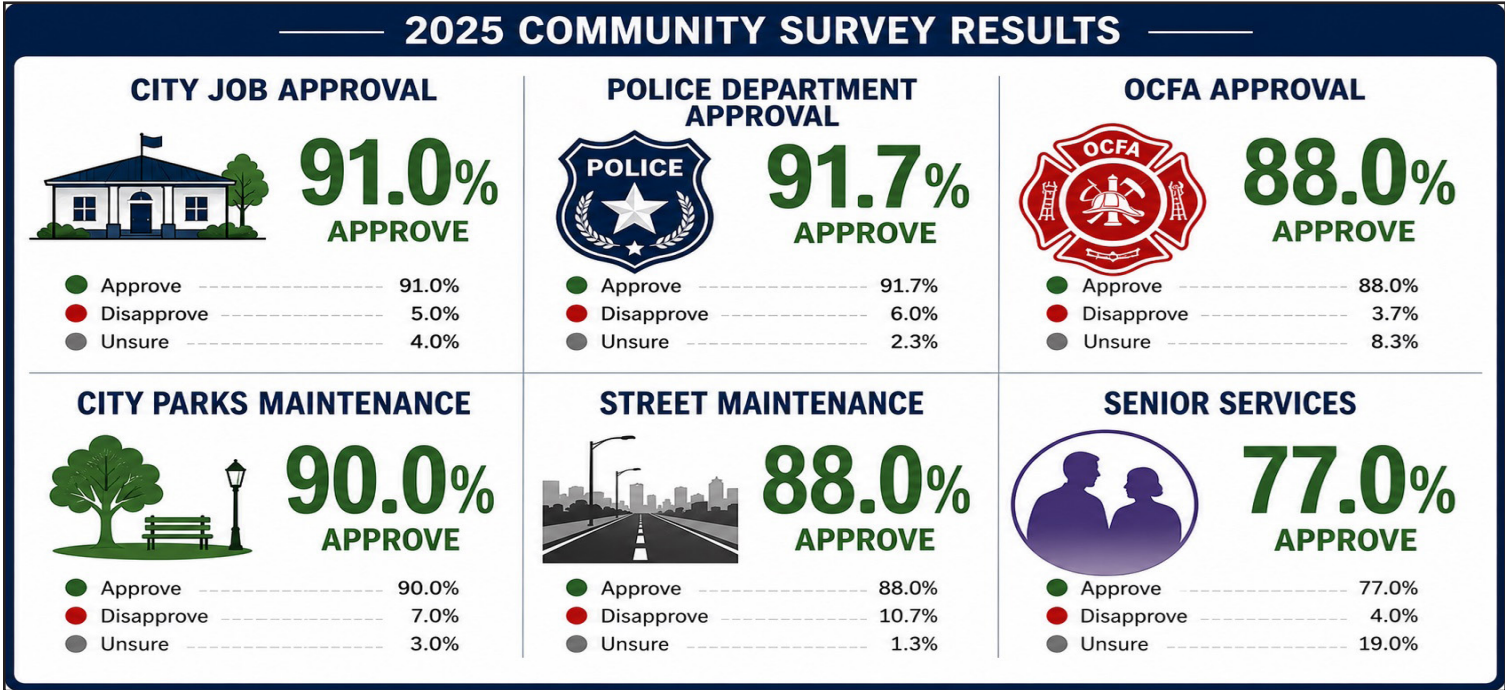
Your Source for Los Alamitos Community News

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thelosalloop.org

Survey Says, Los Al Receives 91% Approval Rating from Residents



The 2026 Los Alamitos Survey Results showing a City Job Approval rating of 91 percent and an average approval rating in all sectors of 87.62 percent.

A recent citywide survey found that Los Alamitos residents continue to express overwhelming confidence in the services provided by the City, with approval ratings exceeding 88 percent in several service areas and reaching 92 percent for public safety. The survey highlights the City’s continued commitment to delivering quality services, maintaining infrastructure, supporting public safety, and enhancing overall quality of life. Overall, 91 percent of respondents approved of the job the City of Los Alamitos is doing in providing services to residents. City Manager Chet Simmons stated, “This strong level of support reflects the City’s ongoing efforts to responsibly manage public resources while delivering essential programs and services.” Public safety emerged as both the highest priority and one of the highest-rated services among residents. More than 92 percent of respondents approved of the work being done by the City and the Los Alamitos Police Department to prevent crime and keep residents and businesses safe. Chief Michael Claborn mentioned, “The department is proud of such a higher rating in the community. However, we are going to work towards that other 8% for the next survey!” Additionally, 88 percent approved of the fire and emergency response ser-

vices provided through the Orange County Fire Authority. The survey also found that residents highly value the City’s investment in parks, recreation, and public infrastructure. Ninety percent of respondents approved of the City’s efforts to build and maintain parks and offer recreation programs for residents of all ages. Public works services also received strong marks, with 88 percent approving of the City’s work maintaining streets, streetlights, stormwater systems, and other critical infrastructure. Services for seniors also received favorable ratings, with 77 percent of respondents approving of programs and services designed to support older adults in the community. While residents expressed strong satisfaction with City services, the survey also identified the issues that remain top-of-mind for the community. Transportation, traffic, infrastructure, and road conditions ranked as the most frequently mentioned concern, followed closely by public safety, housing affordability, inflation, and homelessness. When asked which services are most important to them personally, residents identified public safety as their highest priority. Other highly ranked priorities included maintaining streets and sidewalks, keeping local taxes

low, managing City finances responsibly, improving traffic flow, and responding to homelessness. The survey findings suggest that residents not only recognize the importance of these services but also appreciate the City’s ongoing efforts to address them. Public safety, parks, recreation, and infrastructure maintenance all demonstrated particularly strong satisfaction levels among respondents. City staff continue to work diligently across all departments to maintain and improve services while planning for the community’s future needs. From maintaining roadways and public facilities to supporting recreation programs, managing City finances, coordinating emergency preparedness efforts, and investing in public safety, City employees remain focused on delivering responsive and effective local government. The results also reflect the collaborative efforts of City staff, the City Council, the Police Department, the Orange County Fire Authority, volunteers, and community partners who work together to provide services that residents rely on every day. Assistant City Manager/Development Services Director expounded, “This survey shows the work that the City does to improve and show why we are ‘The Best City Ever.’”

Upcoming Events Calendar

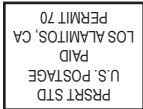
- City Meetings
- City Council Meeting
Date: July 20, 2026
Time: 6:00 PM
- Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Commission Meeting
Date: August 5, 2026
Time: 6:00 PM
- Planning Commission Meeting
Date: June 24, 2026
Time: 6:00 PM
- City Events
- Summer Concerts in the Park
Dates: July 16, 23, 30, and August 6, 2026
Location: Little Cottonwood Park and Orville R. Lewis
Time: 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM
- Mayor’s Ball Capital Chic with Mayor Doby
Date: August 22, 2026
Location: Los Alamitos Community Center
Time: 5:30 PM to 9:30 PM
- Elevate Encore Senior Expo
Date: August 26, 2026
Location: Los Alamitos Community Center
Time: 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
- More events can be found on the City website: cityoflosalamitos.org

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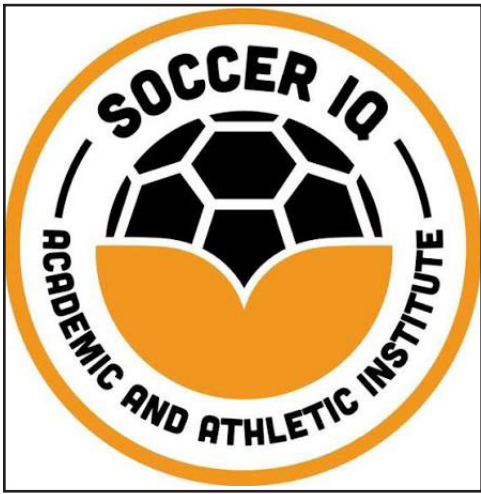
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Mayor's Business Spotlight: Soccer IQ Institute



In Los Alamitos, success isn't measured only by goals scored on the soccer field; it's also measured by the confidence, character, and life skills young people develop along the way. That's the philosophy behind Soccer IQ Institute, the latest business to be featured in the City of Los Alamitos' Mayor's Business Spotlight Program. Soccer IQ Institute was recognized as the June 2026 Mayor's Business Spotlight recipient for providing academics and athletics training for young members of the Los Alamitos community.

Soccer IQ Institute is much more than a soccer training facility. It is a place where student-athletes are encouraged to grow academically, physically, and personally while pursuing their passion for the game. Through its unique approach to youth development, the institute helps students build the skills they need to succeed both on and off the field.

Founded on the belief that athletics and education should go hand in hand, Soccer IQ Institute combines elite soccer training with academic support, wellness programs, leadership development, and mentorship opportunities. The goal is to create well-rounded individuals who are prepared for whatever path they choose in the future—whether that's collegiate athletics, a professional ca-

reer, or another pursuit entirely.

What makes Soccer IQ Institute stand out is its emphasis on developing the complete athlete. While technical soccer skills are certainly important, the institute also focuses on helping students strengthen critical thinking, decision-making, teamwork, resilience, and discipline. These lessons extend far beyond the game and can have a lasting impact throughout a young person's life.

In addition to its training programs, Soccer IQ Institute is committed to connecting students with opportunities in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics through its STEAM initiatives. By introducing student-athletes to new educational pathways and career possibilities, the organization is helping prepare the next generation of leaders, innovators, and problem-solvers.

Residents interested in learning more about Soccer IQ institute can visit the academy at 10589 Bloomfield St in Los Alamitos. The institute is open Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and is closed on the weekends. For additional information about programs, enrollment opportunities, and upcoming events, visit www.socceriqinstitute.com or contact the team at info@socceriqinstitute.com. Community members can also stay connected by following Soccer IQ institute on Instagram, YouTube, TikTok, Facebook and X under the handle @socceriqinstitute.

The Mayor's Business Spotlight Program is a free economic development initiative designed to celebrate local Los Alamitos businesses, entrepreneurs, and organizations that contribute to the community's vibrancy and quality of life. Through spotlight features and interviews, residents can learn more about the people and businesses that help make Los Alamitos "The Best City Ever."

Los Alamitos Awards Animal Control Contract to OC Animal Care, Saves Money



One of the many things that makes Los Alamitos the "Best City Ever" is the wide range of services provided to residents. From maintaining streets and parks to supporting public safety and community programs, the City works hard to ensure residents receive the services they need every day.

The City Council approved animal control and sheltering services through a service agreement with Orange County Animal Care (OCAC) Services at the June 15, 2026, meeting. Los Alamitos provides Police services, Public Works, and Recreation programming, but partners with outside organizations to deliver City services when more cost-effective options are available. Los Alamitos has partnered with Long Beach Animal Care Services (LBACS) to provide animal control and sheltering since 2001. However, this agreement is set to expire on June 30, 2026.

City staff conducted a comprehensive review of available service providers to determine the best path forward. The goal was straightforward: identify a provider capable of delivering high-quality animal care and control services while remaining financially sustainable and responsive to community needs.

Staff explored several options throughout Southern California. WAGS Pet Adoption in Westminster, which provides sheltering and licens-

ing services for several local agencies, was contacted but is not currently accepting additional contract cities. The Southeast Area Animal Control Authority (SEAACA) in Downey was also considered but is likewise unable to take on new municipal partners at this time.

After a thorough evaluation, two viable options remained: continuing with LBACS or transitioning to OCAC.

Both agencies provide comprehensive animal control services, including field response, shelter operations, adoptions, licensing, investigations, and community outreach. However, significant differences emerged when comparing costs, service models, and operational capabilities.

LABCS submitted a bid of \$215,019 for Fiscal Year 2026-27, with a 10 percent increase the following year, while OCAC submitted a bid of approximately \$97,100. OCAC based their proposal on actual animal control usage instead of as a blanket proposal amount. OCAC also provides services to Cypress and the unincorporated County-designated area of Rossmoor. Assistant City Manager/Development Services Director Ron Noda stated, "This new service provider will allow the City to maintain animal control services and provide savings to the City that would not have been possible with the current provider. This is a win-win for the residents."

Although the OCAC shelter is located farther away in Tustin, many routine services, such as pet licensing and renewals, can be completed online, over the phone, or in person without requiring a shelter visit. Staff determined that the substantial cost savings, expanded service availability, and modern operational model outweigh the inconvenience of a longer drive for the relatively small number of residents who may need to visit the shelter for services.

Los Alamitos City Council Invests in City Streets, Saves Taxpayer Funding Using CDBG

At its June 15 City Council Meeting, the City Council approved the Reagan Street Improvement Project, a major infrastructure investment that will enhance Reagan Street between Farquhar Avenue and Katella Avenue. The project is part of the City's ongoing Pavement Management Program (PMP), which focuses on maintaining and improving local streets.

Construction is expected to begin in August and be completed by the end of September 2026.

The project includes grinding and overlaying the roadway surface, replacing damaged curb and gutter sections to improve drainage, repairing lifted sidewalks and deteriorated driveways, upgrading curb ramps to meet current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards, and repairing cross gutters to improve stormwater flow.



An example of the grind and overlay process mid-construction.

The total estimated cost of the Reagan Street Improvement Project is approximately \$603,000.

A significant portion of the project will be funded through the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), CDBG funding helps communities improve public infrastructure, accessibility, and neighborhood safety.

When the City learned that the

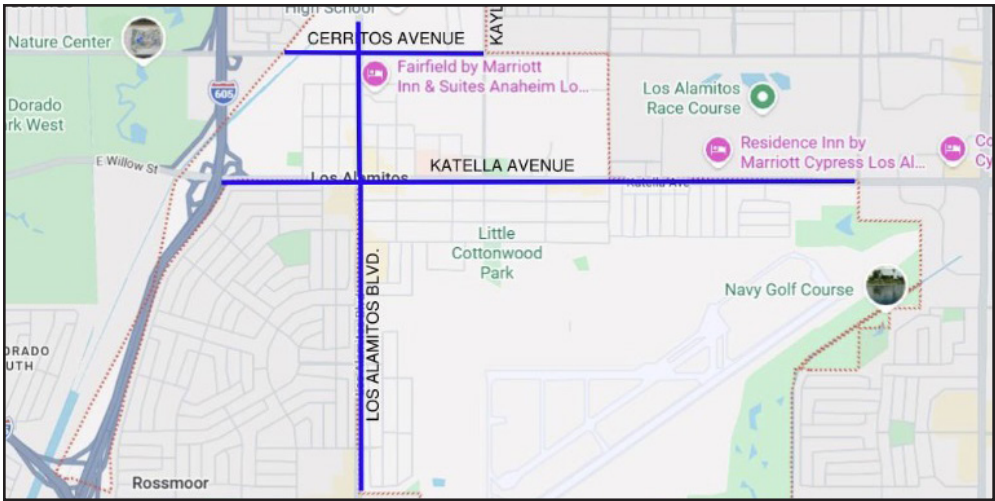
CDBG program was experiencing funding shortfalls that would reduce Los Alamitos' allocation, staff identified another solution. Savings generated from the recently completed Oak Street Improvement Project will be redirected to Reagan Street through the use of Gas Tax funds. These funds are legally restricted for transportation-related projects and cannot be used for general City operations, making them an ideal funding source for roadway improvements.

In addition, the City continues to leverage funding opportunities available through California's Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017, commonly known as SB 1. This statewide transportation program generates funding through fuel taxes and vehicle registration fees and provides cities with dedicated resources for maintaining and rehabilitating local roads.

For Fiscal Year 2026-27, Los Alamitos is expected to receive approximately \$337,000 in SB 1 funding for local street improvements. Since the program began in 2017, the City has received more than \$2 million in SB 1 funding, helping improve roads throughout the community without requiring additional General Fund expenditures.

Assistant City Manager/Director of Development Services Ron Noda stated, "The City's approach demonstrates how strategic financial planning can maximize infrastructure investment while protecting core municipal services. By combining federal grants, state transportation funding, and savings from completed projects, Los Alamitos is able to improve streets, enhance safety, and maintain public infrastructure without reducing service levels for residents."

Los Alamitos Maintains Measure M2 Funding, Light Synchronization Planned



The planned light synchronizomization streets of Los Alamitos Blvd., Katella Ave., and Cerritos Ave.

The City Council adopted the City’s updated Measure M2 Seven-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for Fiscal Years 2026/27 through 2032/33, as well as a resolution confirming updates to the City’s Local Signal Synchronization Plan (LSSP). Approval of these items will allow the City to remain eligible for Measure M2 funding administered by the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA). Measure M2 is a voter-approved half-cent sales tax dedicated to transportation improvements throughout Orange County. To receive its share of these funds, each city must annually demonstrate that its transportation planning efforts align with county-wide mobility goals and meet established eligibility requirements. A key component of this year’s submittal is the City’s updated Local Signal Synchronization Plan. Signal synchronization refers to the coordination of traffic signals along major corridors to improve traffic flow and reduce unnecessary stops. Assistant City Manager/Development Services Director noted, “When signals are properly synchronized, vehicles can travel more efficiently through intersections while reducing congestion that limits fuel consumption, vehicle emissions, and travel times.” Traffic signal synchronization plays an important role in the overall circulation patterns of a city. Rather than operating as isolated intersections, synchronized signals work together as a coordinated network that helps move vehicles, transit, emergency

responders, cyclists, and pedestrians safely and efficiently throughout the community. As regional traffic volumes continue to increase, coordinated signal timing has become one of the most cost-effective tools available to improve roadway performance without constructing new roadways. The City’s Seven-Year Capital Improvement Program serves as a long-range transportation planning and fiscal forecasting document that identifies future transportation projects and improvements. While inclusion in the plan does not commit the City to funding a project, projects must be included in the CIP to be eligible for future Measure M2 funding opportunities. The proposed program reflects City Council priorities and focuses on projects that improve circulation, reduce traffic congestion, enhance roadway safety, and preserve the City’s existing transportation infrastructure. Maintaining eligibility for Measure M2 funding also positions the City to compete for additional transportation grants and regional funding opportunities. The proposed Fiscal Year 2026/27 budget anticipates receiving approximately \$324,000 in Measure M2 Local Fair Share revenues for circulation-related projects. Continued compliance with Measure M2 requirements ensures Los Alamitos can leverage these funds to support local transportation improvements while contributing to a more connected and efficient regional transportation network.

Los Al Police Department Awards Presented



From left to right: Chiefs Award Winner Lizet Salinas, Volunteer of the Year Bruce Murphy, Chief Michael Claborn, Employee of the Year Troy Wogu, and Officer of the Year Sergeant Rodriguez honored at the June 15, 2026 City Council Meeting.

The City Council recognized outstanding Los Alamitos Police Department personnel and community partners during the June 15th City Council Meeting, highlighting contributions that reflect exceptional service, dedication and impact. Los Alamitos Police Chief Michael Claborn presented five major awards before a full council chamber, honoring individuals whose work over the past year exemplified the department’s commitment to safety and public partnership. The recipients included a Volunteer in Policing (VIP), a photo enforcement employee, and a sworn officer whose contributions supported the department’s mission. VIP Bruce Murphy was named Volunteer of the Year. Murphy has dedicated countless hours to supporting administrative operations, providing selfless service, and engaging in community outreach. Murphy regularly assisted with logistical needs, freeing up sworn officers for field duties. Los Alamitos Police Department Photo Enforcement Officer Lizet Salinas received the Chief’s Award, one of the agency’s highest honors for professional excellence. Salinas was recognized for her exceptional performance, reliability, and leadership in improving internal processes. Chief Claborn credited her with helping streamline departmental workflow and supporting major projects that strengthened overall efficiency. The title of Employee of the Year was awarded to Troy Wogu, who demonstrated outstanding service throughout the year in his role within the Po-

lice Department. Wogu was praised for his work ethic, problem-solving abilities, and willingness to take on complex assignments. Officer Rodriguez was named Officer of the Year, recognized for exemplary law enforcement performance, community engagement, and leadership in the field. Officer Rodriguez was commended for his proactive policing efforts, thorough investigations, and commitment to building trust with residents. Officer Rodriguez consistently exceeded expectations, often taking on additional responsibilities to support the department’s goals. Chief Claborn stated, “These awards are a minimal recognition compared to the efforts that these individuals have contributed to the Police Department and to the Safety of the community. I applaud their efforts in keeping the community safe through their contributions.”



2025 Los Alamitos Citizen of the Year Monica Salmon with Chief Michael Claborn at the June 15, 2026 City Council Meeting.

City of Los Alamitos Approves 2025 General Plan Goals in Annual State Mandated Review

The City of Los Alamitos has approved the 2025 General Plan Annual Progress Report (APR) and 2025 Housing Element Annual Progress Report, state required documents that outline the City’s yearly efforts to implement long term planning and housing programs. State law requires every California city to submit an Annual Progress Report detailing its implementation of the General Plan, the overarching blueprint guiding local land use decisions. In addition, cities must provide a separate annual report on the Housing Element, documenting prog-

ress toward meeting state housing requirements and the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA). Both reports must be submitted in formats adopted by the Governor’s Office of Land Use & Climate Innovation. The City’s current General Plan, adopted in March 2015, was shaped through extensive community engagement involving residents, commissioners, and the City Council. It provides a framework for long term planning and reflects the community’s shared priorities. Annual reporting is a key component of the General Plan’s implementation strategy,

providing a transparent view of the City’s progress. For 2025, staff prepared a detailed General Plan APR that summarizes the steps taken to implement policies across all plan elements. The report outlines implementation measures tied to specific goals, highlighting their contributions to overall progress during the reporting period. The report reinforces the City’s commitment to maintaining alignment between daily decision making and the General Plan’s guiding principles. The City successfully submitted its 2025 Housing Element APR to the

state on April 1, 2026. The report provides data on housing related activities and progress toward RHNA benchmarks, as well as updates on the implementation of housing programs intended to promote affordability, sustainability and availability for residents at all income levels. Assistant City Manager/Development Services Director Ron Noda stated, “The annual report is important to maintain compliance with the state and to provide transparency in the City’s land use. Los Alamitos remains committed to improving quality of life through housing as well.”

Los Alamitos Present New Economic Development Initiative: The Los Al Business Alliance



The Los Alamitos City Council was presented the high-level overview of the City’s newest economic development initiative, the Los Alamitos Business Alliance, at the June City Council Meeting.

The program is designed to provide local businesses with the resources, support, and connections needed to thrive in Los Alamitos. Initially offered at no cost to businesses, the initiative will continue to evolve with regular input from the local business community.

Assistant City Manager/Development Services Director Ron Noda stated, “The primary goal of the Los Alamitos Business Alliance is to identify and address the needs of local busi-

nesses while helping guide future City efforts that support economic vitality.” Efforts may include enhanced public safety coordination, traffic and access improvements, networking opportunities, and partnerships with regional organizations.

The program is built around four key objectives: business advocacy, marketing and promotion, business engagement, and resource coordination. To support these goals, the City has developed several core initiatives, including a Business Support Program, Events & Promotions Program, the LosAlBusinessAlliance.org website, and a Business Watch Program.

The Business Support Program will feature a Business Toolkit, a plug-and-play marketing resource designed to help local businesses better understand and market themselves within the community. Additional services under development include social media consulting and expanded City-supported advertising opportunities. A major focus of the program will be ongoing business engagement, allowing City staff to build stronger relationships with business owners and better understand their needs and priorities.

The Events & Promotions Program will launch with business block parties and community sweepstakes featuring gift cards from local businesses. The block parties will rotate throughout the City and include music, promotions, and activities designed to increase foot traffic and visibility for surrounding businesses. The sweepstakes program will encourage residents to shop locally while helping businesses attract new customers. Serving as the foundation for these efforts will be the LosAlBusinessAlliance.org website. The website will act as the central hub for all Business Alliance information, including program updates, resources, and opportunities for local businesses. The site will also provide direct access to contacts and services offered by organizations such as the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and the Los Alamitos Area Chamber of Commerce, helping businesses connect with valuable networking and support resources. Additionally, the website will feature information on available commercial spaces and business opportunities throughout the City.

One of the largest collaborative efforts under the Business Alliance umbrella

will be the Business Watch Program, a partnership between the City’s Economic Development Division and the Los Alamitos Police Department. Through the program, police officers will conduct outreach visits to local businesses to strengthen relationships, build trust, and foster open communication between the business community and law enforcement. The program aims to put a face to the badge while creating meaningful connections that support a safer business environment. Future enhancements may include security camera registration and other crime prevention initiatives developed in partnership with the Police Department.

The LosAlBusinessAlliance.org website is scheduled to launch on July 6, 2026. The Business Support Program is expected to begin in August 2026, with events, networking opportunities, and the Business Watch Program anticipated to launch during the fall. Assistant City Manager Noda stated, “The Los Al Business Alliance is another effort that the City is making to improve the community by helping out our small businesses. The City prides itself on innovation in an effort to be ‘The Best City Ever.’”

Los Al Museum 26-27 Schedule Approved



The Los Alamitos Museum located 11062 Los Alamitos Blvd, on the corner of Los Alamitos Blvd. and Katella Ave.

The Los Alamitos City Council approved the Los Alamitos Museum Association’s proposed schedule, activity plan, and budget for Fiscal Year 2026–27, continuing the partnership between the City and the nonprofit organization that operates the community’s historic museum.

The City of Los Alamitos formally assumed ownership of the former Los Alamitos Fire Station, now home to the Los Alamitos Museum, after receiving the building from the County of Orange in 1974 and the land in 1976, conveyed by grant deed. Under the terms of the deed, the site must be used exclusively as a public museum or for another recreational purpose that benefits all county residents.

Although the City owns and maintains the property, the museum is operated independently by the Los Alamitos Museum Foundation. The City entered into an agreement with the Foundation in 1975, granting the organization authority to collect, preserve, and exhibit historical, cultural, and educational materials tied to the heritage of Los Alamitos and sur-

rounding communities. The Museum Association is required to submit an activity plan yearly with a proposed schedule and budget to the City for review.

The activity plan outlines regular operating hours on Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

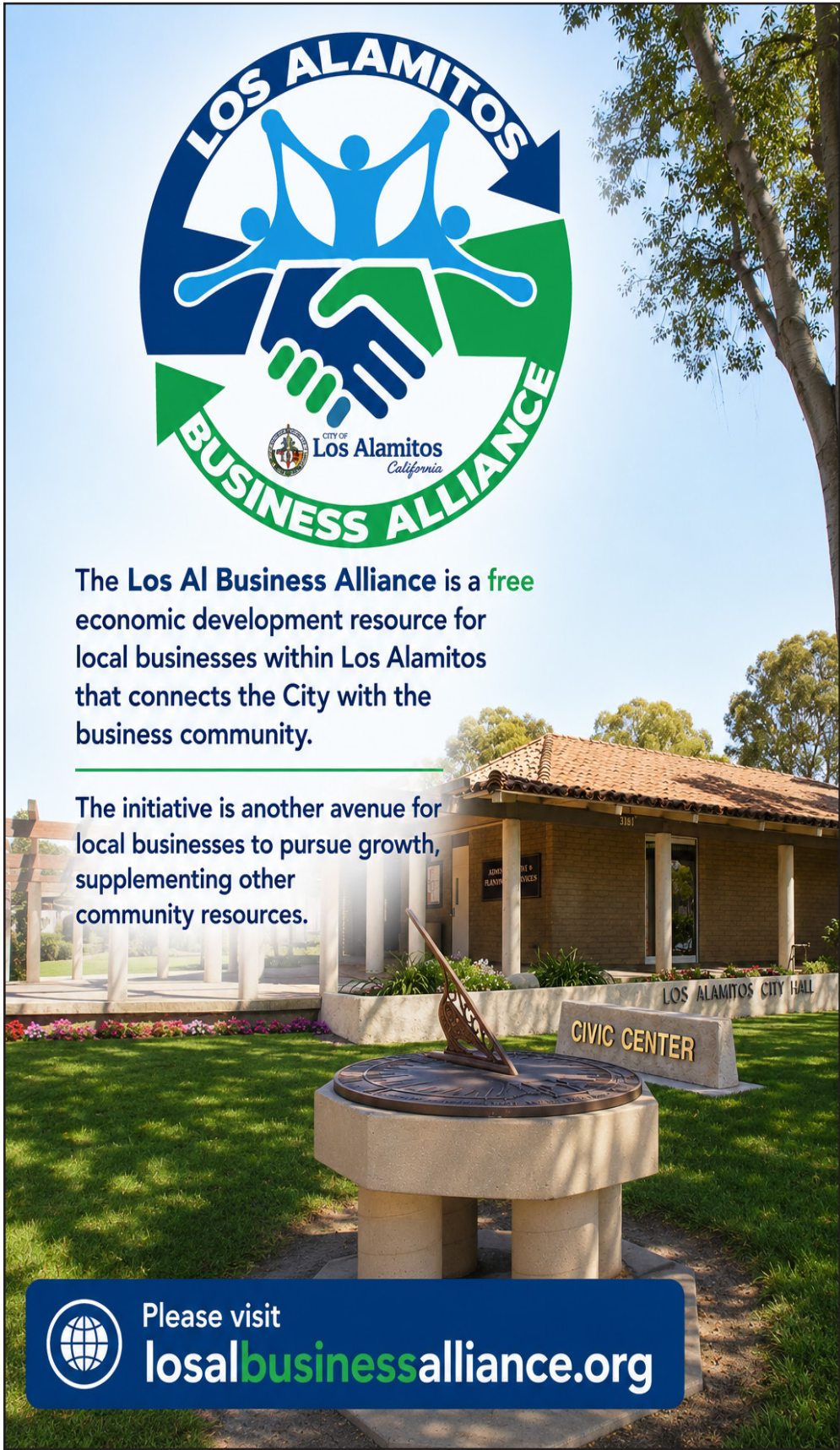
In addition to the Museum Association’s activity plan, the City’s Recreation and Community Services Department plans to increase use of the museum building over the next year. Director of Recreation and Community Services/Director of Intergovernmental Affairs Emeline Noda stated, “The museum is planned as a resource for the City’s recreation activities as it is a cornerstone of the community and can provide our younger residents an opportunity to learn about the City’s history.”

The proposed budget totals \$9,275 to operate the facility, as additional funding comes from donations, memberships, fundraising events, and grants. The City does not provide financial support for the museum’s programming or operational costs.



The Los Al Business Alliance is a free economic development resource for local businesses within Los Alamitos that connects the City with the business community.

The initiative is another avenue for local businesses to pursue growth, supplementing other community resources.



 Please visit **losalbusinessalliance.org**