Meetings

Meetings are in City Hall and the Community Center unless otherwise noted, and are open to the public.

City Council/Succesor Agency
6 p.m., 1st and 3rd Tuesdays

Citywide Advisory Commission
7 p.m., 2nd Thursday
(Only when necessary)

Beautification Commission
6:30 p.m., 2nd Tuesday

Economic Development Commission
8 a.m., 1st Thursday

Community Center

Environmental Commission
6:30 p.m., 1st Wednesday

Cultural Arts Commission
6 p.m., 1st Monday
(only when necessary)

Human Relations Commission
6:00 p.m., 3rd Wednesday

Parks and Recreation Commission
6:30 p.m., last Thursday

Planning Commission
6:30 p.m., 2nd and 4th Tuesday

Public Relations Commission
12:00 p.m., 4th Tuesday

Public Safety Commission
6:30 p.m., 2nd Monday

Senior Citizen Advisory Commission
4 p.m., 2nd Monday

Technology Advancement & Innovation Commission
6:30 p.m., 1st Monday

Veterans Affairs Commission
6:00 p.m., 3rd Monday

Youth Commission
7 p.m., 2nd Wednesday

Historical Commission
6:30 p.m., 4th Wednesday

Utilities Users Tax Citizen’s Budget Oversight Committee
(only when necessary)

Mobile Home Park Rental Review Board
6:30 p.m., 2nd and 4th Wednesdays

Relocation Appeals Board
(only when necessary)

Community Coke Engagement Board
6:30 p.m., 2nd Tuesday

Senior Cities Association
6:30 p.m., 4th Wednesday

Elected Officials

Mayor
Albert Robles

Mayor Pro Tem
Lula Davis-Holmes

Councilmember
Elito M. Santarina

Councilmember
Cedric L. Hicks, Sr.

City Clerk
Donesia L. Gause

City Treasurer
Monica Cooper

City Manager
Kenneth C. Farfsing

Interim Assistant City Manager
James Hart

Editor:
Marge Revilla-Garcia

Graphic Design:
Victor Gastelum

Danielle Hasley

The Carson Report is published by the City of Carson to provide those who live and work here with information about the city’s programs, services, and issues. All questions, comments, and contributing information should be directed to the City of Carson’s Public Information Office.

Address:
701 E. Carson St.
Carson, CA 90745
Tel: (310) 952-1740
Fax: (310) 549-1466
E-mail: mrevilla@carson.ca.us
Website:
http://ci.carson.ca.us

FRAUD HOTLINE

The City of Carson has established a Fraud Hotline to fight fraud and protect taxpayer’s dollars. The Hotline is an option for anyone wishing to anonymously report illegal or unethical activity on the part of the City, its officials, employees, contractors, or vendors. The Hotline is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and interpreters are available in 20 different languages.

Calls placed to the Hotline are confidential and handled by a third party vendor. You do not have to give your name and your call is not recorded through the use of recording devices, caller identification equipment or any other means.

The City of Carson has taken a pro-active step against fraud by establishing the Hotline. In the event that you become aware of unethical, illegal or irresponsible activity, don’t ignore it. Call the Fraud Hotline toll-free telephone number at 1-877-7 HO T TIP or 1-877-746-8847.

CITY OF CARSON POSITION STATEMENT

Carson is a vibrant city with a small town atmosphere where relationships are important. This is clearly visible throughout the community, from the stable single family neighborhoods, which make up nearly eighty percent of the city’s residences, to the partnership between businesses and volunteer driven agencies which strengthen the city’s remarkable social fabric.

The social composition of Carson is California in miniature. It is a city with a balanced ethnic and cultural mix living together in harmony and prosperity.

The community takes pride in the large percentage of Carson students who attend college, many to California State University, Dominguez Hills, a valuable asset to the city.

Carson’s strategic position in the heart of the powerful economic engine that is Southern California attracts international corporations which recognize the city’s bright future. The city’s proximity to the West Coast’s two major ports, as well as its intersection by four Southland freeways, makes it a major gateway to the Pacific Rim.

We, the people who live and work in Carson, take pride in our city and will continue to build relationships which ensure that future.
On April 8, 2017, the children of Carson that play at Dolphin Park got more than the customary pancake breakfast provided on Opening Day for Baseball, Softball, and T-Ball. Dolphin Park also received a $1.25 million dollar grant to design, construct and install playground equipment specifically for children with all abilities on this most unordinary day. Through a generous grant from the Tesoro Charitable Foundation, the City of Carson’s Parks and Recreation Department was presented with the first installment check in the amount of $250,000 at a ceremony held at Dolphin Park in April. “I hope that this project will encourage all children, regardless of their abilities, to spend quality time in this park environment as the equipment is designed to unite children of all abilities,” said City of Carson Mayor. “The City currently does not have a playground with equipment that children with disabilities can easily access. Thanks to the Tesoro Charitable Foundation, this grant will fill this gap in our park amenities, and as Carson receives the future progress payments of the $1.25 million dollar grant to complete this project, we say thank you to the Tesoro Charitable Foundation,” added the Mayor.

Dolphin Park is a 12-acre park that includes a playground, ball fields, multipurpose rooms, and open space, and is one of 13 parks in Carson. The facility restrooms are ADA compliant, access paths are in place and plenty of parking is available for specialized vehicles and school buses. The playground equipment will consist of swings and ground level play structures. The City of Carson will be working with Shane’s Inspiration, a non-profit organization that works with communities to create inclusive playgrounds and programs that unite children of all abilities. Shane’s Inspiration will assist with the design and development of the playground.

Tesoro Corporation launched the Tesoro Foundation in 2014. The Tesoro Foundation serves as the cornerstone of Tesoro’s community investment strategy and plays a crucial role in advancing the Company’s philanthropic mission to create cleaner, safer, well-educated communities where it operates. “At Tesoro, we are committed to collaborating with our stakeholders to create cleaner, safer, well-educated communities where we operate,” said Stephen Konig, Director of CA Government and Public Affairs for Tesoro. “We are proud to have partnered with the City on this initiative and for the opportunity to help make this community a more inclusive place to live, work and play.”
In January of this year, a special Council meeting was held where the Mayor of Carson appointed members of the City Council to serve on one or more of the sub-committees to plan the 50th Anniversary activities in 2018. Proposed activities include a 50th Anniversary Gala Ball, Miss Carson and Miss Teen Carson Scholarship Pageant, and citywide special events. To offset the cost of the 50th Anniversary events, several fundraisers have been planned including “A White Linen Affair” event in July of this year, an invitational golf tournament, sale of a “Taste of Carson” cookbook, sale of 50th Anniversary promotional items, and more.

Several subcommittees consisting of councilmembers, staff, and volunteers have begun to meet twice monthly to plan, promote, and implement the proposed activities. More volunteers are welcome to take part in planning the activities of the City’s golden anniversary. For more information on how to get involved, please call Recreation and Human Services at (310) 847-3570.

After 27 years in hiatus, the City of Carson returns to the Tournament of Roses Parade in 2018 in time for the City’s 50th Anniversary. The Carson Community Foundation is also involved in raising funds for the proposed entry of the City in the 2018 Tournament of Roses Parade.


The Rose Parade, also known as the Tournament of Roses Parade, is part of “America’s New Year Celebration” held in Pasadena, California each year on New Year’s Day (or on Monday, January 2 if New Year’s Day falls on a Sunday). The parade includes flower-covered floats, marching bands, and equestrian units and is followed by the Rose Bowl college football game. Originally started on January 1, 1890, the Rose Parade is watched in person by hundreds of thousands of spectators on the parade route and is broadcast on multiple television networks in the United States. It is seen by millions more on television worldwide in more than 100 international territories and countries.
The crowned 2018 Miss Teen and Miss Carson will receive a scholarship. Winners of both pageants will be honored in the City’s events throughout the year and move on to the statewide pageant.

Citywide Events
All annual events in 2018 will carry the theme “Honoring our Past, Envisioning the Future, The All American City”
Zika is not a threat in Carson—There is actually a risk. The Aedes aegypti mosquitoes in Carson can transmit the virus. An Aedes mosquito in Carson can bite a Zika-infected traveler, and then bite a healthy person to transmit the virus. Everyone can be a carrier and everyone can be at risk, even pregnant women.

Citronella candles and bracelets work – Not effectively. Research has shown they will work in the immediate area around the repellent, but they perform poorly to protect the whole body or a large area.

Mosquitoes grow in soil – Just the opposite. Mosquitoes grow in stagnant water in people’s backyards and patios. You can find standing water in any container that can hold water, including buckets and tires. Dump out standing water if you don’t want mosquitoes!

On its second year, the City of Carson hosted a Military Career day on March 24, 2017 to expand high school students’ opportunity to explore career options by providing information about the military career. Military Career Day is an opportunity to learn about all the benefits the different branches of the military offer. These benefits include ways to pay for education, provide technical training, build self-confidence, and develop leadership skills.

Hundreds of high school students from Carson High, Rancho Dominguez Preparatory, Banning High, Narbonne High, San Pedro High, and Gardena High attended the event. Participating Military groups included U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force, California National Guard, and the U.S. Marine Corps.

“The City of Carson is at the forefront of youth empowerment. The Military Career day gives young adults access to information otherwise not available to them. It allows young men and women to make a sound career and educational decision. These are the types of programs that enrich a community,” said Sergeant Edwin Cruz of the U.S. Army.

“The fair was very informative and I’m glad I was able to participate. It helped me make a decision that I’ve been battling for a while now,” said a high school attendee. “The presentations gave very insightful information and I’ll be looking into some choices in the military,” said another student.

City of Carson partnered with LAUSD Local District South, LAUSD Board of Education District 7, U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion Los Angeles, California National Guard, U.S. Marine Corps Recruiting Substation Long Beach, and U.S. Air Force Recruiting Service, Pacific American Student Services, and Asian American Drug Abuse Program to organize this event.
We are often asked what is the best way to connect with the Carson Sheriff’s Station when people need help or simply want to pass along information. As always, please dial 9-1-1 for a medical emergency, a crime in progress, as well as a danger to life or property. For all other situations you can call the Carson Station at (310) 830-1123. We can be contacted in person 24 hours a day in our station lobby located at 21356 S. Avalon Blvd. in Carson. For those who would simply like to pass on information, have a recommendation, or want to ask questions and prefer electronic forms of communication, our email address is Carson@lasd.org. For those who want to file a report online such as a lost or stolen cell phones or property valued $950 or less, vandalism, excluding graffiti, where damage is valued under $400, theft from an unlocked vehicle valued $950 or less or theft from an open or unsecured area valued $950 or less, you can go to the Sheriff’s Department web site at www.LASD.org.

Crime Stoppers
For those who would like to provide information about an unsolved crime anonymously, call the Los Angeles Regional Crime Stoppers office at (800) 222-8477 or visit www.lacrimestoppers.org to submit information online. The Los Angeles Regional Crime Stoppers program is a community-based, non-profit organization that offers an anonymous way to report crimes. All tips are handled by a third party service provider ensuring you will never have contact with a law enforcement officer. If your information leads to an arrest, you may be eligible for a reward up to $1,000. No names will be asked, just your crime tip information. Your phone number and computer IP address cannot be traced.

Star Reading Program
We recently partnered with a local school in our community to help support literacy. Researchers have strongly established a link between illiteracy and incarceration. Nearly 70% of the nations incarcerated population cannot read above a 4th grade reading level. 1 in 4 children in America grow up without learning how to read. As one of my mentors taught me, education is the greatest equalizer. So once a week Carson Station volunteer deputies including myself work with our community youth to improve their reading and comprehension skills. An unexpected benefit of the program has created bonds between the children in the program and our deputies, which is based on mutual respect and understanding.

Emergencies 9-1-1
Calls for Service (310) 830-1123
Watch Commander (310) 830-1123
Community Relations (310) 847-8386
Visit our website at www.carson.lasd.org
Hundreds of families woke up early on April 1st and flocked to Veterans Park to start the month off in their support for raising money for autism advocacy and awareness through a 5K walk/run.

For partnering agency, Autism Advocates in Action (AAIA), the 5K and resource fair is an important day to help educate, advocate and bring awareness to the community.

“As the Founder/President of AAIA, I am very proud of the progress the City of Carson has made as it relates to the special needs community. It is important that we continue to make progress in the areas of advocacy, research, services and programs. Our annual Autism Awareness 5K Resource Fair is one of our largest collaborations. Our families, vendors, community partners and community leaders are the best of the best. We appreciate the support,” said Renita Verner.

Autism Advocates in Action is a 501c3 non-profit organization whose mission is to provide community support in the areas of advocacy, resources, and activities for children, teens and adults while promoting awareness and inclusion. The organization provides monthly meetings to help educate parents on current law and collaborate with the community engagement resource to help parents navigate the system.

Partnering agency and founder of LADA LOVE, Keesha Hollier-Gates, is happy to see the growing number of participants each year from the community that supports the cause and hopes to see a stronger collaborative partnership with the City and all other agencies that play a part in the quality of life for children of all needs.

According to Special Needs Program Assistant Recreation Coordinator, Eileen Malumaleumu, she was extremely pleased with the success of both events.

“It was truly humbling to witness the tremendous love and support of all the families and friends who walked or ran in honor of a child/family member/friend. I am thankful that the City of Carson continues to support, promote and raise awareness for Autism,” said Malumaleumu.

For more information about the Special Needs Program or the Special Olympic games, please log on to the City of Carson website at http://ci.carson.ca.us/department/communityservices/special_needs.asp or call the Human Services Special Needs Program at (310) 835-1465. For more information about Autism Advocates in Action, log onto http://www.autismadvocatesinactionsg.com/ or call 562-857-4300. For more information about LADA LOVE, log on to www.ladalottalove.com or call (310) 490-3350.
The Carson Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization formed in 2016. The foundation is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors that consists of two Carson City Council members, one City Commissioner and six community members. The Foundation is supported by the City of Carson who provides administrative support through the Department of Community Services.

The specific and primary purpose of the Carson Community Foundation is to support the City of Carson by providing funding, through grants, donations, and corporate support, for charitable, cultural, recreational or educational purposes to benefit the community within the present and future boundaries of the City of Carson. The "Why I Like Carson" Essay-Writing Contest was the first project that the Carson Community Foundation sponsored in December 2016. Other projects underway for the Foundation include the 2018 Rose Parade Float, the City of Carson's 50th Anniversary, and other Carson citywide special events. Other potential projects include student scholarships, enhancement to City facilities, public safety, the Carson Stroke Center, Carson senior citizen programs, and Carson fitness centers.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, please log on to carsoncf.org. You may also call (310) 847-3570 or e-mail ccf@carson.ca.us.

* Tax exempt applied for (status pending)
Urban Coyotes
Do’s and Don’ts

The coyote is a member of the dog family, and is native to California. It closely resembles a small German Shepard dog with the exception of the long snout and bushy, black-tipped tail. The coyote’s high-pitched, yodel-like yapping can frequently be heard at night. Coyotes are extremely adaptable and can survive on whatever food is available. Coyotes are an important part of the ecosystem, helping to keep the rodent populations under control. They hunt rabbits, mice, birds, and other small animals. Coyotes are by nature fearful of humans. If coyotes are given access to human food, pet food, or garbage, their behavior changes. They will quickly lose their natural fear of people and may become bold, even aggressive. Pets are often attacked, injured, or killed by coyotes.

Use Negative Reinforcement
If coyotes are seen in your neighborhood, let them know they’re not welcome. Do not feed them. Unfortunately your pet’s food can become the food of many wild animals. If you or your pets are approached by an aggressive coyote, pick up your pet or keep it on a short leash, and try to frighten the coyote by shouting in a loud deep voice, and by waving your arms to make yourself appear larger. If you are seated, stand up, retreat from the situation by walking slowly backwards so that you don’t turn your back on the coyote. For everyone’s safety, it is essential that coyotes retain their natural wariness of humans.

Coyote Precautions
Residents, especially those living near open spaces, natural thoroughfares, or wild land preserves, are advised to give special attention to the following Do’s and Don’ts to safely co-exist with the coyote.

DO:
• Consider making your pet an indoor pet when living in an area that is known to be occupied by coyotes.
• Keep your pet on a short leash.
• Install motion-sensitive lighting around the house.
• Eliminate thick ground cover, such as ivy and low shrubs from around dwellings to reduce protective cover for coyotes and make the area less attractive to rodents. Coyotes and other predators may be attracted to areas where rodents are concentrated.
• Keep yards free from potential shelters such as thick brush and weeds, and enclose the bottoms of porches and decks.
• Teach children not to approach stray animals.

DON’T:
• Don’t walk your pet during dusk or dawn, when coyotes tend to be more active.
• Don’t allow pets to stay outdoors at night.
• Don’t allow pets to roam from home unattended.
• Don’t feed wild animals.
• Don’t approach or attempt to “tame” coyotes.

Secure Your Food and Trash
Allowing coyotes access to human food and garbage is reckless and can be deadly. Coyotes primarily hunt rodents and rabbits for food, but will take advantage of whatever is available, including garbage, pet food, and small domestic animals.

• Do not set your trash out for pick-up until the day of pick-up to reduce attracting predators in the middle of the night.
• Don’t leave trash cans uncovered.
• If you leave garbage outside, don’t use trash bags as garbage containers; coyotes can easily rip them open and scatter contents.
• Feed your pets indoors if possible.
• If you do feed your pets outdoors, food dishes should be promptly emptied and removed after the pets have eaten.
• Don’t leave water bowls for pets outdoors.
• Remove any fruit which has fallen to the ground, and cover compost piles.
• Provide secure enclosures for rabbits, poultry, and other outdoor animals.
• Ask your neighbors to follow these tips.

Taking a few preventative measures should help deter unwanted wildlife from visiting your property. Please remember that if the three (3) life sustaining elements are available (food, water and shelter), you are likely to encounter some form of wildlife in your area.
The City of Carson’s Human Services Department just completed the second session of a very successful intergenerational program. Local senior citizens were paired with students from Rancho Dominguez Preparatory School once a week for a period of eight weeks. The seniors shared their personal histories with the students, and the students captured those conversations using tablets to create audio and visual recordings. The students edited the content and presented clips of the finished product to the seniors at a culminating event at Dominguez Park on April 20th.

The initial goal of the program was to assist seniors capture their histories using technology, but the biggest takeaway was the relationship that developed between the generations. Conversation flowed easily, trust and respect were mutual, and genuine friendships emerged.

Former Carson Mayor Gil Smith took part in the program, and when asked about his experience, he said, “I will long remember my participation in the Carson Intergenerational Program with the students from Rancho Dominguez Preparatory School. The opportunity to share life stories was a very rewarding experience, and it emphasized how important interactive communication is when we try to translate our personal faith and commitment into positive constructive action.”

Carson resident and volunteer extraordinaire Carole Keen agreed, adding, “My two girls have become a permanent part of my heart. They are bright, they are kind and sensitive, they are excellent listeners, and they have a wonderful future ahead. They’re a gift. It’s the grandest thing the City of Carson has ever allowed me to do.”

Dodie Brownlee agreed, stating, “I loved every minute of it. I loved going back through all of the memories.”

Each session is different than the last. The first session focused on students teaching seniors about the internet, e-mail, and social media. The most recent session focused on documenting personal histories. The next session may include a more physically active exchange, like activities and dance. If you or someone you know is interested in participating in the next session in the fall, please call the Human Services office at (310) 952-1775.
Congratulations to the “Rising Star” winners

- Savannah Rector
  Annalee Avenue Elementary School

- Channing Thomas
  Annalee Avenue Elementary School

- Richard Lovely
  Chadwick School

- Saela Johnson
  Ambler Avenue & High Achieving Gifted Magnet School

- Ni’Aara Jones
  Ambler Avenue Elementary School

- Marley Netherly
  Ambler Avenue Elementary School

- Triston Thomas
  Ambler Avenue Elementary School

- Kendall Wallace
  Ambler Avenue Elementary School

- Ryan Barba
  Towne Avenue Elementary School

- Caitlyn Bayan
  Towne Avenue Elementary School

- Kristine Jose
  Towne Avenue Elementary School

- Landon Ramirez
  Towne Avenue Elementary School

- Armani Thomas
  Towne Avenue Elementary School

Career and Employment Development Services are available to income qualified Youth and Young Adults Ages 16-24.

SERVICES INCLUDE:
• Local Job Leads
• Internships Guidance
• Resume, Interview and Job Search
• Vocational Training Programs
• Pre-Employment Training

For more information, please call (310) 952-1762
Carson Career Center is an equal opportunity employer/program