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Police & Fire Emergencies 911

Animal Control
Carson Animal Shelter
(310) 523-9566

Birth, Death, Marriage Records
County Registrar-Recorder
(562) 462-2137

Building Permits Building & Safety,
(310) 952-1766

Public Transit and Dial-A-Ride
(310) 952-1779
Hearing Impaired
(800) 252-9040

Cable Television
Time Warner Cable
(888) 892-2253

Chamber of Commerce
(310) 217-4590

City Hall
(310) 830-7600

Code Enforcement
(310) 952-1700, ext. 1786

Community Center
(310) 835-0212

Crime Prevention
Neighborhood Watch
(310) 847-7481

Disaster Preparedness
(310) 952-1700, ext. 1603

Dump
Transfer Station
(310) 217-6300

Electricity
Southern California Edison Co., (800) 950-2356

Gas
Southern California Gas Co.
(800) 427-2200

Graffiti Removal
Landscape & Buildings
(310) 952-1700, ext. 3500

Hospital
Harbor General UCLA Medical Center
(310) 222-2345

Jobs
Job Clearinghouse
(310) 233-4888

Libraries
Carson Regional
(310) 830-0901
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
(310) 327-4830

Parking Enforcement
(800) 654-7275

Parks & Recreation
(310) 847-3570

Post Office
Main No., (800) 275-8777

Sandbags
Street Maintenance
(310) 952-1700, ext. 3520

Sewer Clean-up
(626) 458-4357

Senior Services
(310) 952-1775
(310) 835-0212

Sidewalk Repair
Street Maintenance
(310) 952-1700, ext. 3520

Sheriff's Station
(310) 830-1123

Street Sweeping
Street Maintenance
(310) 952-1700, ext. 3520

Telephone
AT&T
(310) 515-7979

Trash Collection
Waste Management
952-1700, ext. 3508
or (310) 830-7100

Tree Trimming/ Street Maintenance
(310) 847-3520

Water
California Water Service Company, (310) 257-1400
Golden State Water Company (800) 999-4033

Youth Services
(310) 952-1788

Meetings

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

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

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

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

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

Fine Arts and Historical Commission
7 p.m., 1st Monday

Historical Committee
6 p.m., 2nd Tuesday & 4th Wednesday

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., 3rd Thursday

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

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

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

Women's Issues Commission
6 p.m., 4th Monday

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

Youth Commission
7 p.m., 2nd Wednesday

Relocation Appeals Board
(Meetings are held when required)

Sister Cities Association
7 p.m., 4th Wednesday

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

Elected Officials

Mayor
Jim Dear

Mayor Pro Tem
Julie Ruiz-Raber

Councilmember
Elito M. Santarina

Councilmember
Mike A. Gipson

Councilmember
Lula Davis-Holmes

City Clerk
Helen S. Kawagoe

City Treasurer
Karen Avilla

City Manager:
Clifford W. Graves

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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.

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<http://ci.carson.ca.us>

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 Californian 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.



Parks, Recreation & Human Services Guide

NOW IN A SINGLE, COMBINED ISSUE

Census Data: Carson's Population Grew Slightly from 2000 to 2010

Carson's population displayed a slight growth over the last 10 years, according to the 2010 Census.

The 2010 population count for Carson is 91,714. In 2000, Carson's population was 89,730, reflecting an increase of about 2.2%.

Carson's race breakdown did not change in the last Census, with Hispanic or other Latino race still representing approximately 35% of the population, followed by Asian, African American and the White population at almost equal percentages.

Changes in other general demographic characteristics such as sex, age and total number of households in Carson are also minimal, if not negligible.

The table below shows the summary file for Carson's demographics, based on data obtained from the 2010 Census website.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau/American Fact Finder

Subject	Total		18 years and over	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
POPULATION				
Total population	91,714	100.0	69,722	100.0
RACE				
One race	87,297	95.2	67,098	96.2
White	21,864	23.8	17,025	24.4
Black or African American	21,856	23.8	17,019	24.4
American Indian and Alaska Native	518	0.6	414	0.6
Asian	23,522	25.6	19,073	27.4
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	2,386	2.6	1,696	2.4
Some Other Race	17,151	18.7	11,871	17.0
Two or More Races	4,417	4.8	2,624	3.8
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE				
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	35,417	38.6	24,488	35.1
Not Hispanic or Latino	56,297	61.4	45,234	64.9
One race	54,181	59.1	43,886	62.9
White	7,022	7.7	6,395	9.2
Black or African American	21,385	23.3	16,722	24.0
American Indian and Alaska Native	152	0.2	128	0.2
Asian	23,105	25.2	18,825	27.0
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	2,291	2.5	1,643	2.4
Some Other Race	226	0.2	173	0.2
Two or More Races	2,116	2.3	1,348	1.9
HOUSING UNITS				
Total housing units	26,226	100.0		
OCCUPANCY STATUS				
Occupied housing units	25,432	97.0		
Vacant housing units	794	3.0		

Sheriff's Department to Provide Patrol of Homes During Fumigation



The Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Carson Station is urging residents to notify the station when their homes are scheduled for fumigation so that patrols can be provided to deter possible burglaries while the property is unoccupied.

In 2010, there were five burglaries reported on fumigated homes in Carson.

There are several ways to protect your homes during the fumigation process, but none are 100% guaranteed. However, Sheriff's deputies on patrol can certainly decrease the chance of your home being

burglarized when it is tented. If you are scheduled to have your property fumigated, please contact the Sheriff's Department Carson Station at (310) 830-1123.

Carson and Lynwood Welcome First NSP Homebuyer

The Cities of Carson and Lynwood recently welcomed its first homebuyer who has moved into one of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program's (NSP) renovated homes.

NSP is a program that allows cities to purchase foreclosed homes and rehabilitate them to stabilize the surrounding residential areas to ensure viable, safe places of living.

Through the Housing and Recovery Act (HERA), NSP received \$3.92 billion in emergency assistance funds to finance, purchase, acquire or redevelop abandoned and foreclosed home and residential properties.

For communities such as Carson and Lynwood, the implementation of the NSP helped prevent the rise of foreclosures, which often attract vandalism, assess diminishing returns on property values, and become an overall eyesore to the community.

Both cities officially welcomed their first homebuyer at a Key Presentation event led by City officials from both Carson and Lynwood held on January 29. The event was a testament to NSP's goals in boosting local economies and stabilizing communities suffering from the foreclosure crisis. The cities are hoping to place more homebuyers into the newly-rehabilitated homes within the next several months, and thus help create a long term stability for the local communities and the new homebuyers.



The Quintero family, the first homeowners to move into an NSP rehabilitated home, poses for a photo after the ribbon-cutting ceremony held early this year.

City Establishes Housing Authority

In an effort to protect the properties and assets of the Carson Redevelopment Agency from being seized by Sacramento, the City Council and the Redevelopment Agency has created a Housing Authority and transferred its property and funds into the new entity and under City control.

The move was in anticipation of a likely State recapture of Redevelopment Agency properties if the proposed elimination of 425 local redevelopment agencies throughout California is passed by state legislators.

At least 29 parcels of Redevelopment Agency-controlled real property earmarked

for the construction of affordable housing units were transferred to the newly-created agency, and 11 other parcels of real property also previously acquired and earmarked for the purpose of eliminating environmental "blight" were also transferred from the agency into the City's control.

"The proposed elimination of the Carson Redevelopment Agency would result in the potential loss of approximately \$28 million in gross property tax increment revenue, \$78 million in funding over the next five years to pay for Capital Improvement Programs and \$66 million in bond proceeds, among others."

The task of promoting residential development and fulfilling the low and moderate income housing needs previously held by the Redevelopment Agency now fall under the responsibilities of the Housing Authority and the City.

They will also take over the management and construction, funding and budget allocations of various redevelopment projects.

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Cleanup and Abatement Order Issued for Carson's Carousel Neighborhood

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board has issued a Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) directing Shell Oil Company to investigate the former Kast Property Tank Farm and determine the best way to remediate the soil and groundwater in the Carousel neighborhood in Carson.

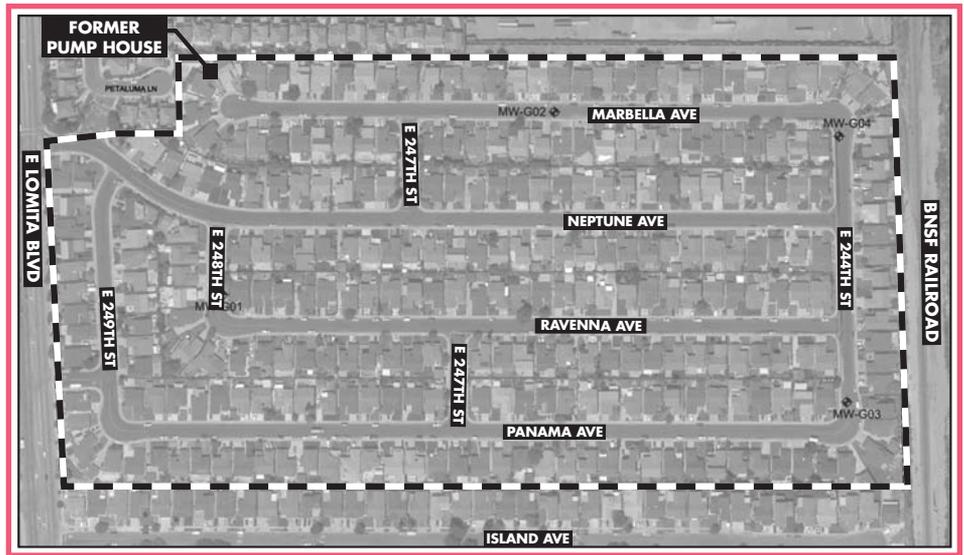
From the 1920s to the early 1960s, three oil storage reservoirs with a total capacity of 3.5 million barrels occupied the site, and over the last several years, initial testing in homes and public streets has shown varying levels of contamination.

The CAO is the next step in the environmental investigation to address contamination affecting the 285 homes in the Carousel neighborhood.

Under the CAO, Shell is required to submit a Pilot Testing Work Plan by May 2011 to evaluate the feasibility of removing impacted soils and remnant portions of reservoir concrete slabs to 10 feet. The plan may discuss remedial options, possible resident relocation during soil removal activities and ways to minimize odor and noise impacts.

By the end of Fall 2011, Shell is required to identify site-specific clean-up goals and begin preparation of a Remedial Action Plan (RAP). While some remediation activities will start this year, full scale site clean-up resulting from the implementation of the RAP is expected to begin by Summer of 2012.

The Regional Board has also directed Shell Oil to conduct an environmental assessment work for groundwater beneath the Carousel Tract beginning March 28. Deep groundwater monitoring wells will be installed and samples



Map shows location of former tank farm location

collected from the Gage Aquifer at four locations in the public streets. The installation work will take approximately four months and occur between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. During this time, periodic street lane closures will occur during drilling and noise levels will be elevated. Drilling and testing is estimated to take one month per well location.

For a copy of the final CAO, please visit <http://ci.carson.ca.us/carouseltract>

For additional information on the environmental investigation in the Carousel neighborhood, please contact Shell's Kast information line at (310) 857-2335 or Gita Kapahi, Director of Public Participation of the California State Water Resources Control Board at (916) 341-5501.

Translation Assistance Offered to Seniors to Better Understand Phone Bills

Senior citizens who need translation assistance in understanding their telecommunications bill can get free help from the Search to Involve Pilipino Americans (SIPA), which recently received a grant to provide language and education assistance to customers of phone companies.

SIPA received a grant from the California Public Utilities Commission to provide limited-English senior citizens with assistance in understanding their phone bills and resolving billing

issues in their native language.

Through SIPA's network, translation assistance and education is not limited to Tagalog, but is available in a variety of languages.

Among the common problems faced by senior citizens who speak limited English include telephone fraud, understanding pre-paid calling cards and billing scams.

For more information, please contact (213) 382-1819 ext. 123.

Disasters Happen. Are You Prepared?

As we watched the overwhelming devastation in Japan from the catastrophic earthquake and ensuing tsunami, we were reminded of our own vulnerability to earthquakes here in Southern California. In the initial hours and days following a disaster, first responders may not come to the aid of victims due to incidents elsewhere requiring their immediate attention or because they are unable to reach some of the population.

Every citizen must therefore be prepared to meet their most immediate life-saving and life-sustaining needs.

Before an earthquake strikes, make sure that your family is trained on first aid, how to shut off the gas, water and electricity, and how to protect oneself during an earthquake. Play the earthquake game, and alert yourself to dangers in your home that you can easily correct. The more often you play the game, the quicker you will be able to react when the earthquake occurs.

Set aside supplies in an accessible location. These supplies should include: sturdy shoes, flashlight for each family member, a 72-hour supply of food and water in plastic bottles, wrench to shut-off gas, first aid kit and book, and fire extinguishers.

Inspect your home, secure water heater, and heavy items of furniture and appliances. Check closets, shelves and cabinets and move heavy items to lower shelves. Remove or isolate flammable materials.

Establish reunion points by listing three or four places where you plan to go if you cannot stay in your home, such as neighbors' or relatives' homes or local schools or community centers. If you arrive home after the quake and no one is there, this will give you some places to start looking.

During an earthquake, drop to the floor and take cover under a sturdy desk or table and hold on to it firmly. Remember to keep calm and do not panic. Be prepared to move with it until the shaking stops. If you are not near a desk or table, drop to the floor against an interior wall and protect your head and neck with your arms. Avoid windows, hanging objects, tall furniture, large appliances and heavy objects or glass. Most injuries occur from falling objects and broken glass.



Plan for hazards and plan to be on your own for at least 24-72 hours or more and know that you may need to provide your own shelter and any supplies unique to your situation. Listen to the radio or TV guidance on what to do from local emergency officials. Messages may also come via landlines or texting from Alert L.A. County, the County's mass notification system or Carson's Reverse 911 system.

During an emergency, the Alert L.A. County and Reverse 911 sends a recorded message to telephone owners to quickly alert residents on information such as evacuation and other necessary actions.

For additional information on how to prepare for a disaster, please check the following websites:

www.fema.gov
www.cert-la.com
www.ready.gov
www.redcross.org/disaster/masters

Avalon Boulevard Interchange Project in Full Swing

I-405 / AVALON BLVD INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS



Construction on the Avalon Boulevard Interchange on the I-405 started on August 2010 to add a new southbound on-ramp on the 405 and a bridge to access the Boulevards project. The project scope also involves realigning and improving existing ramps, widening of the 213th Street Bridge, building eight retaining walls and a sound wall, construction of Lenardo Drive, and widening of Avalon Boulevard. The \$19.3 million project is expected to be completed in December 2011.

Pile driving activities for the new Lenardo Drive Bridge started in March 2011 and will likely continue through June 2011. The pile driver is adjacent to the Imperial Avalon Mobile Estates but can be seen from I-405.

Additional information on the project and previous environmental documentation is available on the city's website at <http://carson.ca.us>, and search for Avalon Boulevard, or by calling 877-897-6606.



The \$19.3 million project is expected to be completed in December 2011.

Housing Authority *continued from page 4*

Redevelopment agencies statewide have recently been under the danger of being abolished, and the target of budget-related discussions in Sacramento in the face of the severe and lingering state budget crisis. As of press time, the discussions have been suspended pending a decision to place the issue before the California voters.

The Carson City Council has passed a resolution formally expressing its opposition to the elimination of Redevelopment Agencies, contending that it will destroy local economic development, including hundreds of thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in local economic activity throughout the state.

The proposed elimination of the Carson Redevelopment Agency would result in the potential loss of approximately \$28 million in gross property tax increment revenue, \$78 million in funding over the next five years to pay for Capital Improvement Programs and \$66 million in bond proceeds, among others.

City Council Makes Changes to Dial-A-Ride Program



The Carson City Council recently implemented service modifications to its Dial-A-Ride in an effort to control the program's increasing costs.

Among the modifications to the program include the implementation of a "per trip" maximum value of \$20 per trip and a \$1 increase per one-way trip.

The Dial-A-Ride program provides reliable and affordable transportation for Carson residents who are at least 60 years old or who are disabled adults 18 years or older. The service is provided through taxicabs and wheelchair-equipped vans, 24 hours a day/7 days a week, including holidays. Program participants are entitled to up to 20 cab rides per month.

Hundreds of seniors and disabled residents use the program but cost has escalated significantly in the recent years, with a program cost of \$250,000 in 2002 to approximately \$650,000 for each of the last four years. The program is funded through Proposition A, the county's ½ cent sales tax that was approved by voters in 1980.

Prior to the modifications approved by the City Council early this year, riders pay \$1 per one-way trip and the City subsidizes the rest of the value of the

one-way trip no matter what the cost. But even with the \$20 per trip maximum value, users would still be able to travel of approximately 6.5 miles per one way trip, which according to a study of the program, reflects the typical travel pattern of users of the program.

The typical destinations of riders include the Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center, the SouthBay Pavilion, St. Philomena Church, and Harbor General and Kaiser hospitals.

Last year, the City Council also reduced the number of trips allowed for Dial-A-Ride users from 30 trips to 20 trips per month. A card swipe system has also since been implemented as a more efficient method of collecting fare.

The card swipe system has been a huge success for users, who no longer have to fill out coupon trips, and instead would just swipe a card upon entry and exit from the car. The card swipe system has also allowed the City to easily gather statistical information and analyze the travel patterns of Dial-A-Ride users.

For more information on the Dial-A-Ride program, please contact the City of Carson Transportation Services at (310) 830-7600, ext. 1489.

DID YOU KNOW THESE ORDINANCES EXIST?

ORDINANCE 95-1055: NEW PARK CLOSURE HOURS

Old Closure Hours: Midnight-5 a.m. - **New Closure Hours:** 10 p.m.-5 a.m. No person shall enter or remain in park while closed unless under an approved permit for usage. Parking in lot is prohibited while park is closed. Vehicles shall be towed and stored at owners expense.

ORDINANCE 95-1056: MANDATORY PICNIC SHELTER PERMIT

Permit for use of picnic shelters now necessary in order to facilitate maximum enjoyment and ensure public's health, safety, and welfare. *Anyone occupying a shelter without a permit will vacate when requested to do so by City staff. There is a \$35 fee for a full day use. Permits are available through the Parks & Recreation Department.

ORDINANCE 95-1057: USE OF CITY PARKS BY LARGE GROUPS

Groups of 25 or more now need to obtain a permit to utilize any portion of a park in order as to not deprive others of the free and unimpeded use of park space. There may be a cost for such a permit depending on area used. Permits are available through the Parks & Recreation Department.

ORDINANCE 95-1058: USE OF AMPLIFIED MUSIC IN PARKS

A permit is now necessary for any individual or group wishing to broadcast amplified music in parks as it was found that broadcasting amplified music frequently interferes with the ability of others to enjoy park facilities. Therefore, the City is desirous of minimizing and controlling this interference. Broadcasting standards limit volume of sound to not be audible for a distance in excess of 50 feet. The area where music can be played and direction of speakers shall be agreed upon by permittee and City staff. Amplified music shall only be broadcast between the hours of 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. during daylight savings time and 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. during standard time. There is no fee for this permit.

ORDINANCE 41107: SMOKING PROHIBITED IN PARKS

Smoking prohibited in Parks, Playgrounds and Recreation Centers, and prohibiting disposal of tobacco related products in Parks, Playgrounds and Recreation Centers.

FOR COPIES OF ORDINANCES OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT AT (310) 847-3570