

Public Information Office—Carson  
701 E. Carson Street, Carson, CA 90745

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Spring Issue  
2013

CITY OF CARSON  
**45<sup>th</sup>**  
ANNIVERSARY



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- Host Families Sought for Visiting Foreign Students • Date Set for Tour de Carson Bike Tour and Festival



**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

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., 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

Youth Commission  
7 p.m., 2nd Wednesday

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

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

Utilities Users Tax Oversight Committee  
(only when necessary)

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

Relocation Appeals Board  
(only when necessary)

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

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

## 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  
**Donesia Gause**

City Treasurer  
**Karen Avilla**

City Manager  
**David C. Biggs**

Editor:  
**Margie Revilla-Garcia**

Graphic Designer:  
**Victor Gastelum**

## 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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**Website/E- newsletter subscription:**  
<http://ci.carson.ca.us>

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CITY TREASURER

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 HOT 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.



George Henry Carson (1829-1901)

# Carson “Moving Forward Together” Remembering 45 Years of History

**F**orty-five years ago, on February 20, 1968, the City of Carson was officially incorporated and adopted the motto “Future Unlimited.” Carson was part of a Spanish Land Grant known as Rancho San Pedro that was deeded to Juan Jose Dominguez over 200 years ago. During the incorporation process, the community was named after George Henry Carson, a member of the Dominguez family.

The story of Carson began in 1784 when Juan Jose Dominguez, a retired Spanish soldier, petitioned his former commanding officer, Captain Pedro Fages, for 76,000 acres of a Southern California land. Fages, the appointed Military Governor of Alta, California, honored Dominguez’s request.

When Dominguez took possession in 1784, he built his adobe on what is now known as Dominguez Hills near Alameda Street and Del Amo Boulevard. He later handed down his land to his nephew’s son, Manuel Dominguez, who assumed management of the land until 1825. Over time, the land was subdivided and several acres were granted to other men.

In 1862, Don Manuel Dominguez left his daily supervision of the ranch to his son-in-law, George Henry Carson, a successful merchant, building contractor and a Los Angeles County Public Administrator.

John Manuel Carson, the third child of George Henry’s children, supervised the

farming operations on the 3,000 acres extending from Normandie to Vermont Avenues and from 190th to 228th Streets. Eventually, he took over the management of the Dominguez estate and was also responsible for developing much of the South Bay area.

In recognition of his many contributions to the area, Los Angeles County officials named Carson Street after him and the Pacific Electric Railroad named its local station Carson.

A 10-year movement to incorporate the city finally came to fruition on Election Day of February 1968.

small town atmosphere with single family neighborhoods that make up nearly eighty percent of the city’s residences. The partnership between businesses and volunteer driven agencies that strengthen the city’s social fabric.

The City of Carson has a balanced ethnic and cultural mix that lives together in accord and opulence. Carson is in the South Bay’s “Golden Triangle” of trade – an area bound by LAX, the twin ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, and the Alameda corridor. Carson is also intersected by four Southland freeways that make it a major gateway to the Pacific Rim. Carson’s strategic position



*The Renaissance at City Center at the corner of Carson St. and Avalon Blvd.*

## PRESENT DAY CARSON

Today, Carson continues to be a family-oriented residential community and a burgeoning business center that draws major corporations from around the world. The close association between the Carson and Dominguez families remains a prominent thread in the history of this community. Carson continues to be a vibrant city with a

attracts many international corporations that recognize its bright future.

There is no other city in the Los Angeles-Orange County region that can match Carson’s inventory of available space and ease of accessibility. There are large, modern petrochemical, electronics,

*continued on page 8*

# Nominations Now Accepted for 2013 Leaves of Carson

## Leaves of Carson

**T**he City of Carson is now accepting nominations for the 2013 Leaves of Carson volunteer recognition program.

Leaves of Carson is a program in which individuals who live or work in the City of Carson or local-based organizations are recognized for their

contributions as volunteers in the Carson community. The program, which is a project of the Public Relations Commission, made its debut in 2003.

Seven categories are open for nomination, including business, education, public safety, public sector, Carson resident, non-profit organization and posthumous category. The program is open for residents, as well as individuals that work in Carson who devote unpaid, volunteer hours in the Carson community.

The Leaves of Carson awardees will be recognized at the City Council Ceremonial Presentations in October this year, and each one will get a leaf bearing their names on the Carson Tree, which is displayed at the Congresswoman Juanita Millender Mc-Donald

Community Center.

With the exemption of the posthumous award, which is to be selected by the City Council, the awardees are to be selected by a panel of judges composed of City Commissioners, Committee and Board Chairpersons, based on the information provided by the nominating party.

Nomination forms are now available at the City of Carson Public Information Office, located at 701 E. Carson Street. All nomination forms must be received by 6 p.m. on July 24, 2013, to be considered for the award.

For eligibility requirements and other information, or to request a nomination form, please contact the Public Information Office at (310) 952-1740. ■

## Host Families Sought for Visiting Foreign Students



*2008 Student Delegation and chaperon from Soka, Japan.*

**C**arson Sister Cities Association (CSCA) is seeking host families for foreign students who will be visiting from Soka City, Japan this summer.

Six students, accompanied by a chaperon, will be visiting Carson from

July 21 through August 4. The Carson Sister Cities Association needs volunteer families to open their homes to the delegates for one or both weeks of the visit.

The visit is part of the Sister Cities Student Exchange Program, which

takes place every four years. The City of Carson has hosted over a hundred students from Soka ever since the two cities began their sister cities relationship in 1989.

Activities lined-up for the delegation include excursions and educational tours during the day. The delegates are expected to spend most evenings and weekends with their host families.

All host families must be members or become members of CSCA.

To become a host family, please fill out an application form available at the Public Information Office, located at Carson City Hall, 701 E. Carson Street. The approval process will include a confidential law enforcement background check. For more information, please call (310) 952-1740. ■

# Tour de Carson Bike Tour and Festival



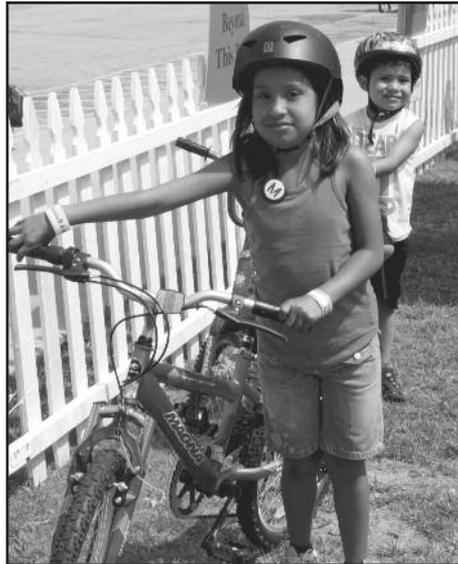
**Saturday, April 13, 2013**

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**City Hall Parking Lot**

701 East Carson Street

Carson, CA 90745



*Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition*

**A**s part of the Master Plan of Bikeways project, the City is organizing a community bicycle event, Tour de Carson, on Saturday, April 13. The event will have a food truck, bike safety sessions, free prizes to promote bicycling, and a bicycle tour to evaluate the proposed bicycle improvements within the Draft Comprehensive Master Plan of Bikeways.

A draft proposal of bicycle infrastructure improvements were reviewed by the public at a "Community Workshop" that was held on January 26, 2013. At the meeting, participants were asked to vote on which proposed segments of the plan should be prioritized within the Draft Comprehensive Master Plan of Bikeways, which will be made available for public review and comments in March/April 2013.

Ray Aldridge, Vice-Chair of the Carson Economic Development Commission and resident of Carson for more than 35 years is really glad that discussions have started in putting bike paths in Carson.

"I'm a proud resident of Carson. I really wish we can do something to put in bike lanes soon. I know it will cost a lot of money and imagination. I'd like to be able to get from point A to point B riding my bike. I hate the idea that if I want to ride my bike, I have to load it on to my car and take it to Long Beach or a surrounding beach city just to have a safe ride," said Aldridge.

Chief of Police for California State University, Dominguez Hills, Carlos Velez, who also oversees the Transportation Services for the campus, enjoyed being able to provide input regarding prioritization of the proposed bike lanes.

"We are interested in making our campus community greener," said Velez. "We are looking at different ways to get people out of their vehicle. We want to see what we can do to encourage and provide our input so we can be a part of the map as a destination," added Velez.

For individuals who could not attend the workshop on January 26, you are encouraged to join the Tour de Carson event on April 13 to give your thoughts on the draft Master Plan. In addition to the bicycle tour, the event will also offer fun educational sessions for bicycle safety, bike anatomy, maintenance and more by the Sheriff's Station, Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition, and other community organizations. Younger riders will have a "little tikes" corner to learn bicycle safety on a designated safety course.

Tour de Carson will also include a Children's Health Fair where kids and adults will be able to obtain information from the bicycling community and health industry on healthy and active living.

Tour de Carson is a FREE event funded by the Caltrans Transportation and Planning grant. Please RSVP at <http://ci.carson.ca.us/bikeways>. Those who RSVP will receive a special gift bag and the first 10 RSVPs will receive a free bicycle helmet at the event.

We strongly encourage you to bring your bicycle and helmet, but it is not required unless you plan to participate in the bike tour.

Don't forget to join us on April 13th and don't miss out on this fun and unique event!

## **Tentative Event Schedule:**

- 9:00 a.m. Register/Check-In
- 9:30 a.m. Educational Sessions (each session will be 15-20 minutes and these are not mandatory for participants)\*
- 10:45 a.m. Bike Tour\*
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch for participants

\*The Bicycle Safety session will be mandatory for all bike tour participants. You must provide your own bicycle and safety helmet to participate in the bike tour. ■



*Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition*

## City Council Continue to Fly Carson Flag at Three-Quarters Mast

The City flag was first lowered on November 11, 2005 as the City of Carson paid tribute to war veterans during the annual commemoration of Veterans Day at the City's Veterans Park. Since then, all City flags in every City facility have been lowered and will all remain in three-quarters position until the troops return from the war in Afghanistan.

In the January 15, 2013 Council Meeting, the hoisting of City flag at three-quarters mast was again unanimously approved by the Council in an effort to demonstrate solidarity as a community

that stands by its military personnel who are deployed in war nations.

The lowering of a flag is a universal gesture of mourning. In addition to being a symbol of grief for all the lives lost in the line of duty, the three-quarters position is Carson's gesture of support to the men and women who continue to demonstrate their courage and bravery in their duties in the war nations, particularly Afghanistan. It is also a symbol of hope for the families who continue to pray for the safe return of their loved ones. ■



## Truck Routes Eliminated from Parts of Main and Victoria Streets

The City Council has unanimously approved in the Council Meeting on January 15 to amend the Carson Municipal Code to eliminate truck routes on the following streets: Victoria Street between Main Street and Central Avenue and on Main Street between Broadway and Victoria Street.

In addition to the modification of designated truck routes, the term "handicapped parking" will be changed to "disabled person parking" in

Section 3253, consistent with the current documentation.

The amended ordinance would also update the list of designated truck routes so that the Carson Municipal section would be consistent with the truck route map that was approved by the City Council in the most recent General Plan update.

To implement the proposed modifications to the designated truck route

system, various "Truck Route" signs along Victoria and Main Streets would have to be modified, added, or eliminated to inform motorists which streets are designated as truck routes. Modification is scheduled to start on March 7.

Modification of truck routes is the City Council's response to neighborhood concerns. It is anticipated that increased enforcement and traffic regulations in these streets will alleviate traffic impacts. ■

## Carson Women's Club Scholarship Now Open

The Carson Women's Club (CWC) is now accepting applications for its annual scholarship program.

Last year, scholarships were granted to 12 graduating students from Bishop Montgomery High, California Academy of Math and Science, Carson High, Harbor Teacher Preparatory Academy, King/Drew Magnet and to eight continuing students.

The awardees were William A.C. Howard, Julia Elise G. Javier, Joseph J. Basse, Cristina Garcia, Janay L.A. Jones, Jaqueline Morales, Dan Mark M. Tamayo, Angelica M. Carambas, Karis T. Wortham, Linda C. Nkemere, Jeanisha Thomas, and Breanna N. Waddis, who all received a \$1,000 scholarship.

Continuing college students Ricardo A.

Pulido, Tina Lu Booker, Mark Mendoza, Samantha Dizon, Asian Taylor Hundley, Brianna D. Little, Danna Tamayo, and Omobolanie Adeniran, all received \$500. All awardees met the grade point average and submitted an essay required by the CWC scholarship committee.

The scholarship award is one of the many projects of CWC. The club is

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# Carson to host Elections for Mayor, 2 Council Seats, and Measure M



The City of Carson will hold a General Municipal Election on March 5 for the Mayoral seat, two city council seats, and Measure M.

Measure M is a measure that would eliminate the direct election of the Mayor by the voters of Carson, and would return to the selection of the Mayor from among the five elected members of the City Council on a rotating basis. The return to a "rotating" Mayor would go into effect in March 2017, if approved by the voters.

Polling locations throughout the city will open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m.

Counting of ballots will be held at the Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center after the close of polls. Election results will be aired live on Carson's cable channel 35 on Time Warner, channel 99 on AT&T, and streamed live on the Internet at <http://ci.carson.ca.us>.

The last day to register to vote is Tuesday, February 19. In order to vote on March 5, residents must complete a Voter Registration form. Forms are available in the City Clerk's Office, US Post Office and online at [http://lavote.net/Voter/Voter\\_Registration.cfm](http://lavote.net/Voter/Voter_Registration.cfm). Registered voters will need to

re-register if they have moved to a different address, changed name, or changed political party affiliation.

All mail-in registrations must be received by the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk or time-stamped by the City Clerk's Office by February 19.

For more information on the elections, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (310) 952-1720. ■

## Senior Citizen Discount for Trash Collection Services

### QUALIFICATIONS FOR A 50% ANNUAL DISCOUNT ON TRASH COLLECTION SERVICES:



- ✓ Owner of Single Family Homes in Carson
- ✓ Must Live on Property
- ✓ 62 Years of Age or Older (by July 1, 2013)



**Sign up dates: APRIL 8, 2013 (Monday) – APRIL 11, 2013 (Thursday)**  
7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Location:** Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center at Carson

801 E. Carson Street, Carson, CA 90745 • Room #107

**You must bring:** A Current Property Tax Bill, A Valid Picture Identification

**For your information:**

- Application valid only for ONE YEAR • You must apply every year
- Does NOT apply to Mobilehomes • Does NOT apply to Apartment Buildings with 5 Units or more

**For more information, please call Public Works at (310) 847-3520**

## Carson "Moving Forward Together"

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automobile, aerospace, trucking and high tech facilities located here in Carson. Many have won regional and local beautification awards. A number of multinational companies have their corporate headquarters in town.

With Carson's uniquely diverse population, cultural events take place throughout the year to commemorate important cultural or patriotic holidays of the major ethnic groups in the city. These events include: Black History Month in February, César E. Chávez in March, Cinco De Mayo in May, Philippine Independence Day and Juneteenth Celebration in June, Samoan Flag Day in August, Veterans Memorial Day Tribute, 4th of July Fireworks Show, Jazz Festival, Veterans Day Celebration, and Senior Recognition Awards.

Regular city activities that take place throughout the year include the "Why I Like Carson" contest, Boxing Dinner Show, Parent and Youth Conferences, Special Olympics and various concerts and art shows. ■



## Carson Women's Club Scholarship

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also actively involved in donation work including the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life in Carson, Toy Drive for the El Nido Family Shelter and distribution of food baskets to adopted schools during Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

For more information on how to qualify for the Carson Women's Club Scholarship Program or to make a donation, please contact Frances Cottrell, Scholarship Chairperson, at (310) 635-3726. You may also pick up an application at Carson City Hall City Manager's Office. The deadline for the scholarship application is February 15, 2013. ■

## NOTICE TO LOCAL CONSTRUCTION WORKERS...

Carson's skilled tradesmen and laborers are invited to attend an informational workshop hosted by Community Dynamics regarding prospective employment opportunities.

- Learn about the new 9.5-acre mixed-use development at 616 East Carson Street to break ground in 2013.
- Register with the Carson Career Center to learn about other future construction opportunities.



## WORKSHOP DETAILS:

- TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2013
- 9:00 AM
- CARSON COMMUNITY CENTER  
ROOM 107  
801 EAST CARSON STREET  
CARSON, CA 90745
- RSVP: 310-952-1700, ext. 1405

## Upcoming Events

### February

#### Black History Month Celebration

Saturday, February 16, 2013; 12 – 4 p.m.  
SouthBay Pavilion

#### Community Legislative Reception

Thursday, February 21, 2013; 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.  
Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center

#### Parent Empowerment Conference

Saturday, February 23, 2013; 9 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center

#### Saturday Night at the Fights

Saturday, February 23, 2013; 5 – 10 p.m.  
Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center

#### Town Hall Meeting on School Safety Measures

Monday, February 25, 2013; 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.  
Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center

### March

#### A Tribute to César E. Chávez

Saturday, March 23, 2013; 1 – 4 p.m.  
SouthBay Pavilion

#### Swearing-in Ceremony for Mayor and City Council

Tuesday, March 26, 2013; 6 p.m.  
Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center

### April

#### Special Olympics 2013 Area Games

Saturday, April 13, 2013; 9 a.m.  
Veterans Park

#### Carson Park Grand Re-Opening

Saturday, April 20, 2013  
Carson Park

### May

#### Cinco De Mayo Celebration

Saturday, May 4, 2013  
SouthBay Pavilion

#### Youth Conference

Saturday, May 11, 2013  
Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center