

THE CARSON REPORT



INSIDE:

Voters to Decide on Measure C
on March 3

“Why I Like Carson” is a Rewarding
Experience, According to Winners

Site Preparation Continues at
The Boulevards at South Bay Project



Capt. Rogers Leads Carson to a Unique Statewide Distinction

The Carson Station of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department has earned the distinction of being the first ever Sheriff's station to win a statewide award for its strategic approach to community policing.

The approximately 200-strong station, led by Capt. Todd Rogers, took the top award for the James Q. Wilson Community Policing Award last summer for its three pronged approach to solving public safety and disorder issues. Tied with Carson in that accolade is the Oxnard Police Department. No other Sheriff's station has ever won the award since its inception 10 years ago.

Capt. Rogers' three-pronged approach focuses on suppression, prevention and intervention, methods that are true testaments to James Q. Wilson's "Broken Windows" principle which involves addressing small signs of disorder in order to prevent bigger disorders from occurring. In Carson, addressing those small signs of disorder meant a strong community policing effort that entails problem-solving skills from all the deputies, and a solid partnership with the community.

In Capt. Rogers' six-year tenure with the station, he has always put emphasis on problem solving. From the time he took the leadership post, he has always required his deputies to



identify a public safety concern in the community and fix it using their problem-solving skills. "It could be anywhere between catching taggers to stopping the homeless from having access to alcohol. I ask the deputies to apply creative problem-solving skills, prioritize it and find a way to solve the problem," he said.

This technique not only won the station the award, but also resulted in a steady decline in crime. In 2008 for instance, Part I crimes, which consist of violent and property crimes, as well as gang related crimes all decreased by a double digit figure.

As for establishing partnership with the community, it is a task that comes with ease with the captain who grew up in Carson and spent years working with the Carson community while employed as an adult sports coordinator for the City's Park and Recreation department. Capt. Rogers, who has been a law enforcement officer for 24 years, now recalls that all it took was one ride-along with the cops

to know that this is what he wanted to do. "I got hooked right there and then." It didn't matter that only about a week prior to that ride-along, he had just received his bachelor's degree as part of an earlier plan to become an educator. "I realized this is what I wanted to do," he said. So he left Carson High School, where he had just started teaching, and enrolled in the academy, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Over the years, Capt. Rogers has established himself as an expert in community policing. As a founding director of the Regional Community Policing Institute (RCPI), he has been providing training to law enforcement agencies throughout the state for more than 10 years.

In addition to the chief of police position he holds at the Carson Station, Capt. Rogers is also the incoming mayor for the city of Lakewood, which is the only other city he has lived in other than Carson. This is his second rotation as mayor and the third four-year term on the City Council. Capt. Rogers sees the two positions - as captain in Carson and elected official in Lakewood -- as complimentary. "It gives me the proper perspective. My job here allows me to appreciate my role as a politician in Lakewood. At the same time, my job as a politician helps me understand the importance of my role here as the chief of police."

"Why I Like Carson" is a Rewarding Experience, According to Winners



For 26 elementary and middle students from Carson, winning the "Why I Like Carson" essay-writing contest is such a rewarding experience that they are already looking forward to the next contest.

While a handful of the 2008 "Why I Like Carson" winners are repeat-winners, more students made a pledge that they will enter again next year because not only do they know they are more experienced for the next round, but also because of the cash prize that allows them to buy something nice for their family or save up for college.

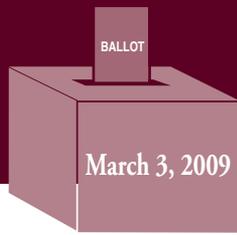
The winners were recognized in an awards ceremony on December 11 at the Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center, where they received gold, silver and bronze medals, cash prizes and certificates of commendation from the Carson City Council and other elected officials from the Federal, State and County levels and the Los Angeles Unified School District.

The essays speak of the students' sentiment about Carson, the places they love to visit, the activities they like to get involved with and the people who helped shaped their young lives. The essay-writers named dozens of reasons why they like Carson, which varied from the typical children's choice such as

the skate park and sports programs to the quiet neighborhoods and well-maintained lawns, to the Good Year Blimp, to the friendly law enforcement officers. But they all agree on one thing: that Carson's diverse population makes it the best place for children like them to grow up and learn about different cultures.

"I really believe that what makes Carson very special are the people that come and live here. This is what makes this city an international community because the people bring with them their unique customs and traditions," wrote Alexander Torres, an 8th grader from St. Philomena, who, for the third time, again took the

Continued on page 6



Voters to Decide on M

THE CITY OF CARSON'S **MEASURE** (UTILITY USERS' TAX)

would create a Utility Users' Tax in Carson to provide funds needed to save vital City services and programs that are at risk because of the current economic crisis.

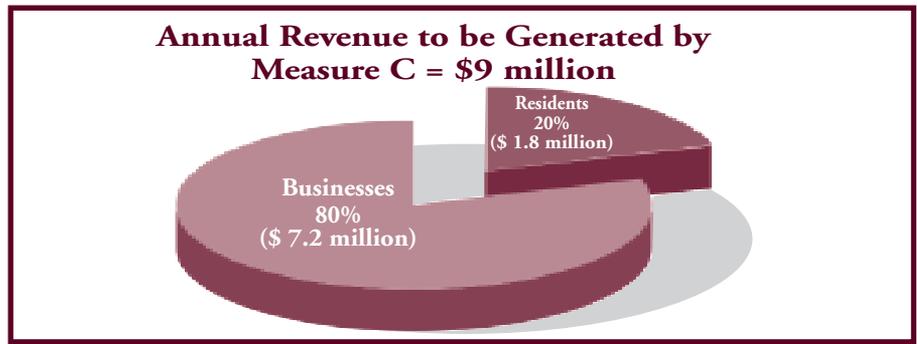
Carson residents will decide on Measure C, a ballot measure which would create a 2% Utility Users' Tax (UUT) on gas

and electric bills in Carson. The ballot measure will appear on the March 3 municipal election ballot, along with the election for Mayor and two council seats.

If approved by voters, UUT would provide funds needed to save vital

names appear on the utility bill, as well as "lower income" households (4-person household earning less than \$5,000 per month) are exempt from paying the Utility Users' Tax.

Currently, Carson is among the very few cities in the South Bay who do not levy a UUT. Carson's



services and programs offered by the City of Carson, which are at risk because of the current economic crisis, state budget cuts and a structural deficit in the City's budget.

neighboring cities, who charge for most utilities, vary from 4% in Gardena to as much 11% in Culver City.

The UUT is expected to generate approximately \$9 million annually, with 80% of that amount expected to be generated from the utility bills of Carson's business community.

Services that will be affected if Measure C is not passed include Sheriff's patrol of local neighborhoods, 911 Emergency Services, street maintenance and pothole repairs, gang prevention and graffiti removal, youth programs and early

The UUT is 2% of the monthly gas and electric bills all Carson businesses and households. No utility tax will be collected for water, telephone and cellular phone utilities. UUT will cost an average of \$3 per month for a typical household with a combined monthly gas and electric bill of \$150.

Residents who are 62 years or older whose



Measure C on March 3

EXEMPTIONS

Residents 62 years or older whose name appears on the utility bill, as well as "lower income" households (as defined by State law *) are exempt from paying the Utility Users Tax.

*A 4-person household earning less than \$5,000 per month

UTILITY USERS' TAX BY COMPARISON

Carson (Gas and Electric only)	Other Cities (Most Utilities)
	GARDENA - 4%
	LONG BEACH - 5%
CURRENT -0%	TORRANCE - 6.5%
PROPOSED -2%	COMPTON - 10%
	LOS ANGELES - 10%
	INGLEWOOD - 10%
	CULVER CITY - 11%

childhood and after-school programs. Senior citizens could also lose their "Meals on Wheels" program, Dial-a-Ride, the Stroke Center and the Computer Technology Center, and the wide variety of recreation programs offered to senior citizens.

In addition, the elimination or reduction of essential services could negatively affect the property values in the Carson if streets are not maintained, and crime prevention measures are not kept at the current levels. Unfortunately, the City of Carson only

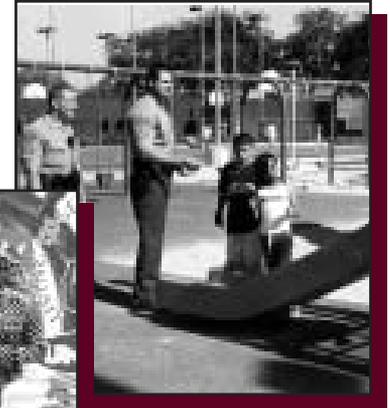
receives less than 7 cents for every dollar paid in property taxes to the County. This amount translates to a mere \$7 million per year, which is not sufficient to cover even the cost of the City's Sheriff's Department contract.

Measure C is



being placed on the ballot to augment the City's structural budget deficit, which is a result of state budget cuts and a decline in sales tax revenues from the current economic crisis. If passed, revenues from the UUT will help maintain the current levels of City services that residents receive from the City of Carson.

To hear more about Measure C, plan to attend a community meeting near

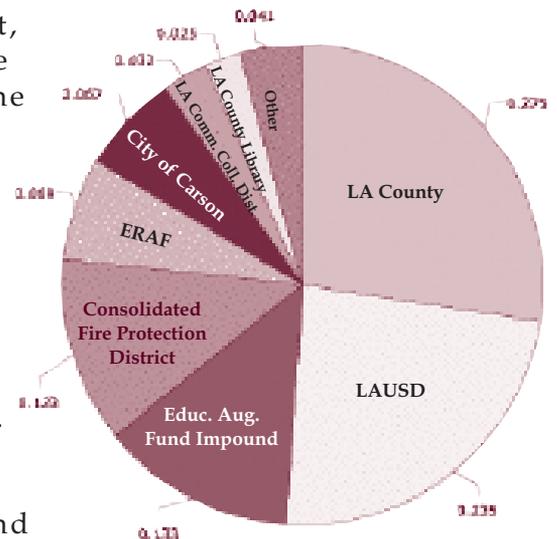


you. Please contact the Public Information Office at (310) 952-1740, for a schedule and locations of meetings throughout Carson.

For voter registration and other information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (310) 952-1720.

Comments? Please call (310) 952-1730 or send an e-mail to MeasureC@carson.ca.us

CENTS PER PROPERTY TAX DOLLAR RECEIVED BY VARIOUS AGENCIES:



"Why I Like Carson" is a Rewarding Experience, According to Winners

continued from page 3

and enjoys the participation of majority of the schools in Carson. Four years ago, the at-large category was added to allow students who live in Carson but attend schools outside the city to participate in the contest.

The success of the yearly contest is a result of the great support of school principals and coordinators who provide encouragement to the students, the business community which donates the cash prizes for the winning students, and of course, the students who find joy and fulfillment in expressing their feelings.

As Dante Owens, a 5th grader from Broadacres Elementary School would put it: "I love talking about my thoughts on Carson. It feels to write about what you feel and my inspiration was all the good times I had in Carson."

Sponsors of the 2008 "Why I Like Carson" contest include Shell Oil Company, Watson Land Company, BP Carson Refinery and The Boulevards at South Bay.

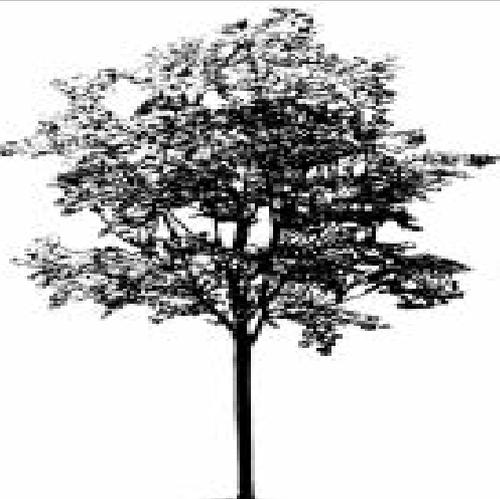
2008 "Why I Like Carson" Essay-writing Contest Winners

Grade	Rank	Name	School
3rd	1st	Erin Montoya	Dolores Street School
	2nd	Sean Phorn	Dolores Street School
	3rd	Audrey Oyama	Carson Street School
	HM	Alyssa Go	232nd Place Elementary School
4th	1st	Jasmine Ben	St. Philomena School
	2nd	Tiana Mueller	Carson Street Elementary School
	3rd	Fiona Mutu	Del Amo Elementary School
	HM	Susana Lopez	Dolores Street School
	HM	Stephanie Del Rosario	St. Philomena School
5th	1st	Michael Aguirre-Kunipo	Del Amo Elementary School
	2nd	Lisa Jones	Del Amo Elementary School
	3rd	Molly Martinez	Carson Street Elementary School
	HM	Donte Owens	Broadacres Avenue Elementary School
6th	1st	Dominique Cole	Glenn Hammond Curtiss Middle School
	2nd	Hy Nguyen	Caroldale Learning Community
	3rd	Leila Riego	Stephen M. White Middle School
	HM	Priscilla Pena	Stephen M. White Middle School
	HM	Byron Obiaga	Glenn Hammond Curtiss Middle School
7th	1st	Jose Miguel Madrid	At-large
	2nd	Chimezie Ebiriekwe	At-large
	3rd	Jose Perez	Stephen White Middle School
	HM	Marielle Baquir	Stephen White Middle School
8th	1st	Alexander Torres	St. Philomena School
	2nd	Eleanor Estrada	St. Philomena School
	3rd	Isaias Pulido	St. Philomena School
	HM	Joseph Hernandez	Stephen M. White Middle School

City to Plant Trees in Honor of Arbor Day

The City of Carson will be planting trees from April 20 through 23 in commemoration of Arbor Day. On April 24, the event will culminate with a tree-planting ceremony at Carson City Hall.

Residents who would like to plant a tree may obtain a "no fee" permit from the Public



Works Division at the City of Carson Corporate Yard, located at 2390 E. Dominguez Street. Trees, planting mix, tree stakes and planting instructions will be supplied to residents at no cost. The planting endeavor is funded by private donations. For more information, please contact the Public Works Division at (310) 847-3520.

Site Preparation Continues at The Boulevards at South Bay Project

One of the key safety systems envisioned for the Boulevards at South Bay is making its way through the necessary regulatory approval system. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) reviewed and approved the overall landfill gas collection and treatment system design in December 2008.

Now that the DTSC design review is complete, the plans move to the next construction permitting stage, which is overseen by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD). The AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Los Angeles county and is charged with undertaking all necessary steps to protect public health from air pollution, with sensitivity to the impacts of its actions on the community and businesses.

The landfill gas system for the Boulevards at South Bay project is a primary component of the integral safety systems that will be installed due to the project's location on the former CalCompact landfill. The gas

system will be a site-wide system that will safely contain and treat landfill gases.

As part of the next phase in the site development process, the development team is finalizing plans to conduct a pile driving pilot test in late February or March. During the pilot testing, two different methods of pile driving will be done to help determine the method and



Rigs similar to these will be used during the pile driving pilot test at The Boulevards at South Bay.

materials that will be most beneficial to this specific project.

Piles are utilized in development projects where the soil near the ground requires strengthening to handle the weight of a building. At the Boulevards at South Bay site, the piles will be driven through the landfill contents to the underlying soil layers to

provide a solid foundation support system for all of the planned buildings.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES FOR DECEMBER 2008 - JANUARY 2009

1. Deep Dynamic Compaction (DDC) Activities - Completed DDC activities on December 11.
2. Refuse Reconsolidation Activities - Continued moving refuse from locations on-site to other areas on-site (no refuse removed from site).
3. Demolition of site streets and utilities - Began crushing concrete from demolition of site roads, sidewalks, curbs and gutters into base material that will be used to construct new site roads.
4. Installation of stormwater protection elements - In preparation for winter storm season.
5. Conducted soil grading in areas where future buildings will be constructed.
6. Conducted noise, air and dust monitoring - As per approved work plans.

For questions about construction activity, please call the project information line at (310) 956-5942 or toll-free at (866) 928-4566



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
Victoria Park
(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 Noon, 1st Thursday, Community Center

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

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

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
Mike A. Gipson

Councilmember
Elito M. Santarina

Councilmember
Harold C. Williams

Councilmember
Lula Davis-Holmes

City Clerk
Helen S. Kawagoe

City Treasurer
Karen Avilla

City Manager:
Jerome G. Groomes

Public Information:
Manager: Eva Gatling

Editor & Writer:
Zarah Cruz

Graphic Designers:
Carlos Esquivel,
Victor Gastelum and
Cian Camba

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: Zcruz@carson.ca.us
Website/E-newsletter subscription:
<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.

"¡Si Se Puede!"
A TRIBUTE TO
CÉSAR E. CHÁVEZ
Saturday, March 21, 2009 at Dominguez Park • 10-4 p.m.
Supported by the Unity Day Latino Subcommittee
Food, Booths, Entertainment, Guest Speakers, Car Show, Novelty Items

For more information, call (310) 549-3962/847-3572
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

THE CARSON

REPORT

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

To: Postal Patron

PRSR.T. STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Long Beach, CA
Permit No. 905
ECRWSS

DATED MATERIAL. Please deliver promptly.