



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

CITY OF CARSON
COMMUNITY SERVICES/RECREATION/PARK
MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT



**Parks
Make
Life
Better!**







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Message from The Director



The Department of Community Services/Recreation/Park Maintenance marked 2023 with a resumption of its regular programming after an extended suspension and a slow return of services due to the Covid-19 pandemic. While these years proved challenging, Community Services staff displayed an extraordinary level of agility, resilience, and commitment to responding to the multiple and diverse needs of residents, especially the City's seniors. As the manager charged with spearheading Carson's Covid-19 efforts, I saw firsthand the hard work done by our employees and am extremely proud of all we accomplished.

As the year progressed, the Department again offered an abundance of meaningful opportunities that promoted mental awareness and physical fitness, as well as personal and social development. In the Recreation Division, staff led classes that developed and supported our youth so that they could become confident and successful members of society. Organized sports leagues allowed adults to decompress from their busy, demanding lives and schedules. We affirmed our dedication to improving our parks through the installation of new refillable water stations and bike repair posts and are currently at the

beginning of stages of placing security cameras at key areas of our facilities. Our Community Services Division's Stroke Center provided social, mental, and physical stimulation and exercise to survivors, while our Senior Recreation program offered a multitude of classes that boosted physical activity and social interaction. Like all schools during Covid, our Early Childhood Education program initially delivered instruction via Zoom, but returned to in-person classes, allowing for the vital student-teacher contact that encourages and promotes the children's growth.

2023 was also the City of Carson's 55th Anniversary. Community Services played an integral role in planning and coordinating the many Special Events that commemorated this momentous year in the City's history. From the premier event of the Anniversary, the Gala Ball; followed by the 5K Walk that coincided with the Cinco de Mayo program and the always popular Golf Tournament; the Street Fair that truly brought the entire community together, and finally the Tour de Carson which traversed the City and California State University, Dominguez Hills, Carson thoroughly and joyfully celebrated its many accomplishments. I hope that you, too, were able to attend at least one of these programs, and created special memories with

your loved ones and neighbors.

In the Spring, we were advised that a new Division would be transferred into Community Services. Called Grounds, this section was in the Public Works Department, and was responsible for the maintenance of all exterior areas – the landscaping, parking lots, and athletic fields and courts - at the Civic Center, the Corporate Yard, and all parks. Upon the City Council's approval of this reorganization, the Division was renamed Park Maintenance. I believe this addition will prove to be a positive one and provide the Department synergy needed to ensure the safety, aesthetics, and usability offered at our facilities.

I anticipate that 2024 will be just as, if not more, exciting and productive for the Department of Community Services. We continue to develop programs and services that respond to the needs of residents, while still providing opportunities to enjoy the open spaces throughout the City. Upcoming renovations at our parks will bring desired amenities to these facilities, while also enhancing their safety and aesthetics. I look forward to sharing those accomplishments with you in our next Annual Report, but for now, join me in acknowledging the most recent successes of the Department of Community Services/Recreation/Park Maintenance.

Michael Whittiker, Jr.



Community Services/ Recreation/Park Maintenance Department

Michael Whittiker, Jr.	Director
Luchie Magante	Principal Administrative Analyst
Bobby Grove	Community Services Superintendent
Victor Fernandez	Community Center Program Manager
Dani Cook	Human Services Program Manager
Jason Jo	Transportation Program Manager
Toni Costanzo	Senior Administrative Specialist
Tim Grierson	Recreation Superintendent
Scott Griffie	Recreation Program Manager
Gloria Marroquin	Recreation Program Manager
Dara Sandoval	Recreation Program Manager
Christina Lutu	Administrative Specialist
Modesto Bolanos	Park Maintenance Superintendent
John Martinez	Park Maintenance Supervisor
Cesar Padilla	Park Maintenance Supervisor



Community

While Carson is well known as an industrial center with unparalleled access to transportation and the Pacific Rim, it is also a culturally diverse community that is an attractive place to live and work. The city has more than 120 acres of park land divided into 12 parks, 4 mini-parks, and sports/recreational facilities that include 2 swimming pools, 2 aquatic centers, a boxing center, a state-of-the art sports complex, a skate park, and the Carson Event Center. These facilities allow the residents of Carson to enjoy a variety of sports, recreational and cultural programs. The city's educational needs are served by Los Angeles Unified School District, and the community is supported by 47 church organizations.





About Us

93 Full-Time Staff

350+ Part-Time Staff

4 DIVISIONS

Administration

- Department Planning
- Budget Administration
- Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission

Recreation

- (16) Park Facilities
- Fabela Chavez Boxing & Weightlifting Center
- Youth and Adults Sports
- Aquatics
- Enrichment
- Fitness Centers
- Kids Club/Summer Day Camp
- Reservations
- Special Events
- Veterans Affair Commission

Park Maintenance (July 2023)

- Turf and Infield Maintenance
- Integrated Pest and Irrigation Management
- Planting
- Fertilizing
- Irrigation Water Management
- Field Safety Inspections

Community Services

Carson Event Center

- EOC Evacuation Center
- Events and Sales
- Hospitality/Event Planning
- Information Hub
- Meetings/Trainings
- Room Reservations

Human Services

- Early Childhood Education
- Senior Independence Support
- Senior Recreation
- Social Services
- Special Interest Classes
- Stroke Center
- Therapeutic Recreation
- Family Support and Prevention
- Senior Citizens Advisory Commission

Transportation

- BREATHE Program
- Carson Circuit
- Dial-A-Ride
- Excursions
- Lyft
- Long Beach Transit





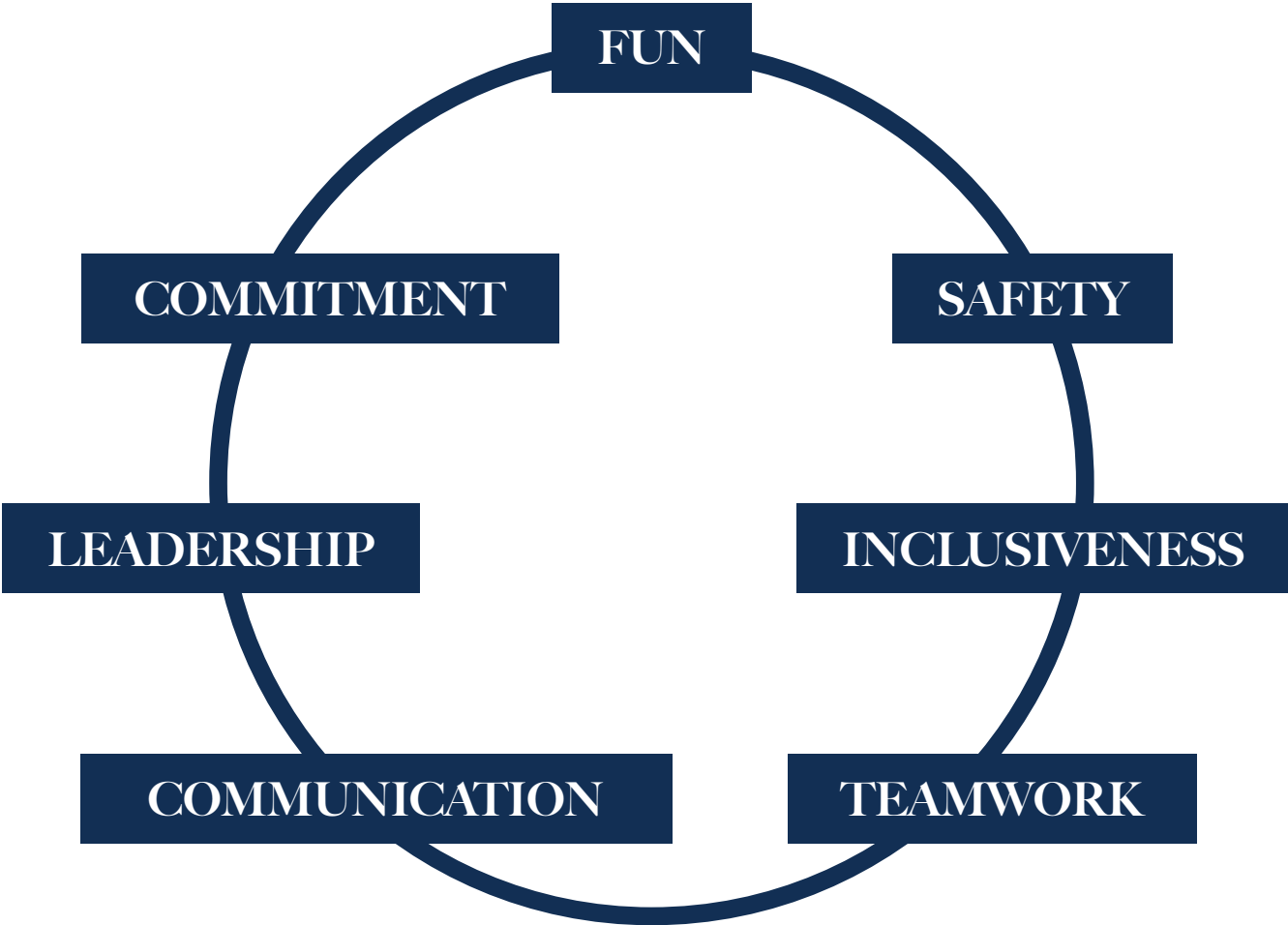
Mission Statement

The Community Services/Recreation/Park Maintenance Department embraces and enhances community diversity through programs, services, and facilities that improve the quality of life for people of all ages and abilities throughout the community.

Vision

To be the South Bay leader in providing accessible and safe quality parks, facilities, and recreational opportunities for all.

Core Values





Master Plan

Since the City of Carson's incorporation in 1968, it had not undertaken an extensive evaluation of its Community Services-related facilities, programs, and services to ensure that it is meeting the needs of the community. To fill this gap in understanding and insight, the Department embarked on an assessment of its sites and operations with the assistance of RJM Design Group, a highly qualified consulting firm in the Parks and Recreation industry.

Established in 1987, RJM is a multi-disciplinary landscape architectural, planning, and design firm committed to serving the needs of cities, public agencies, communities, and organizations throughout California. Among the firm's staff are licensed landscape architects, architects, and planners, most of whom are LEED Accredited Professionals. RJM has completed similar projects for an extensive list of former clients that include Chino Hills, Dana Point, Huntington Beach, Riverside, and Santa Clarita.

On August 26, 2021, a kickoff meeting was held that formally commenced this endeavor. Thereafter, information was collected from various City Departments,

a census of Department facilities and their amenities was completed, 6 workshops were held at the Community Center and at 4 parks, and multiple surveys were released. A significant amount of data regarding community preference was gleaned from the workshops and surveys and served to provide a wealth of knowledge and insight that will assist planning in the near and far future.

Recommendations primarily focused on two areas, expanding recreation opportunities and facility conditions. Residents wished for more traditional recreation programming – for example, sports leagues and fitness classes for adults and seniors - but also expressed a clear desire for the latest trend in recreation, pickleball. Notably, the community voiced a strong interest in adding dog parks and

allowing dogs within city parks.

Additionally, the physical condition of the parks played a disproportionate role in the community's perception and experience with the City's recreation program. The report found that the City should place greater focus on the maintenance of the City's parks, including implementing a schedule for facilities that require immediate improvements that limit park use, and increased general maintenance after large events or at frequently used areas. Additionally, enhancements/upgrades, such improved lighting, security cameras, and a gymnasium in the north side of the City, would add to the residents' satisfaction. Taken together, programming and environment go hand-in-hand in ensuring that the City meets the recreational needs and expectations of the community.

At its September 6, 2022, meeting, a summary of the Final Report was presented to the City Council by RJM, and the Master Plan was subsequently adopted. In the time since the Master Plan was completed, staff continue to use the report as a guide for initiatives that impact Department programming, services, and facilities.





Recreation Division

Recreation offers meaningful environmental, social, and recreational experiences to serve the City’s diverse population, and the needs of all segments of the community. The Division also advocates and provides opportunities that promote mental awareness, physical fitness, and personal development.

To these ends, the Division supports an active youth and adult sports program, enrichment, aquatics, day camps, and after-school programs. Recreation ensures that there is adequate open space that preserves, enhances, and restores the natural environment. It also manages citywide special events and supports a number of local organizations that stage events.

RECREATION PROGRAMS

Number of Registrants

- Kids Club- 3,756
- Summer Day Camp- 4,875
- Enrichment- 1,185
- Spring Break Camp- 382
- Thanksgiving Break Camp- 50
- Swim Lessons- 1,334

YOUTH SPORTS

Number of Registrants

- Flag Football- 171
- Soccer- 1,093
- Basketball- 1,089
- T-Ball/ Baseball/Softball- 1,621

ADULT SPORTS

Number of Teams

- Coed Softball- 193
- Men’s Softball- 88
- Baseball- 175
- Basketball- 33
- Volleyball- 35



RECREATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR 2023-2034

- Purchase and install 13 new scoreboards and wireless controllers in the parks
- Order new kitchen appliances for numerous parks
- Fill all open full-time positions
- Purchase 9 Bottle Filling and Cooler Fountain stations with AQMD grant funds
- Grand opening of 8 pickleball courts at Hemingway Park
- Finalize federal grant agreement for Land Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) \$4.25 million matching grant for Foisia Park



Recreation Division

BY THE NUMBERS



123.3 acres
Acres of Parkland



18 Multipurpose Sports Fields



10 Meeting/Small Activity Rooms



21 Picnic Shelters



20 Playgrounds



17 Baseball/Softball Fields



1 Boxing Center



16 Tennis Courts



22 Picnic Areas



17 Multipurpose Rooms



10 Snack Bars



3 Racquetball Courts



1 Skate Park



5 Horseshoe Pits



4 Swimming Pools (2)
Aquatic Center (2)



4 Gymnasiums



3 Fitness Center



1 Splash Pad



7 Volleyball Courts



8 Pickleball Courts



20 Outdoor Basketball Courts



Anderson Park

19101 Wilmington Ave.
Carson, CA 90746
310-233-4840



Calas Park

1000 E. 220th St.
Carson, CA 90745
310-518-3565

Carriage Crest Park

23800 S. Figueroa St.
Carson, CA 90745
310-830-5601



Carson Park

21411 S. Orrick Ave.
Carson, CA 90745
310-830-4925

Del Amo Park

703 E. Del Amo Blvd.
Carson, CA 90746
310-233-4850





Dolphin Park

21205 S. Water St.
Carson, CA 90745
310-549-4560



Dominguez Park

21330 Santa Fe Ave.
Carson, CA 90810
310-549-3962

Foisia Park

23410 Catskill Ave.
Carson, CA 90745
310-830-8310



Hemingway Park

700 E. Gardena Blvd.
Carson, CA 90746
310-233-4860

Mills Park

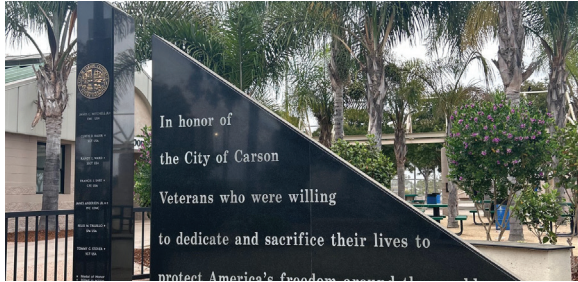
1340 E. Dimondale Dr.
Carson, CA 90746
310-233-4870





Stevenson Park

17400 Lysander Dr.
Carson, CA 90746
310-233-4880



Veterans Park

22400 Moneta Ave.
Carson, CA 90745
310-830-9997

Friendship Mini-Park

21930 S. Water St.
Carson, CA 90745
310-549-4560



Reflections Mini-Park

21208 Shearer St.
Carson, CA 90745
310-830-4925

Perry St. Mini-Park

21590 S. Perry St.
Carson, CA 90745
310-518-3565

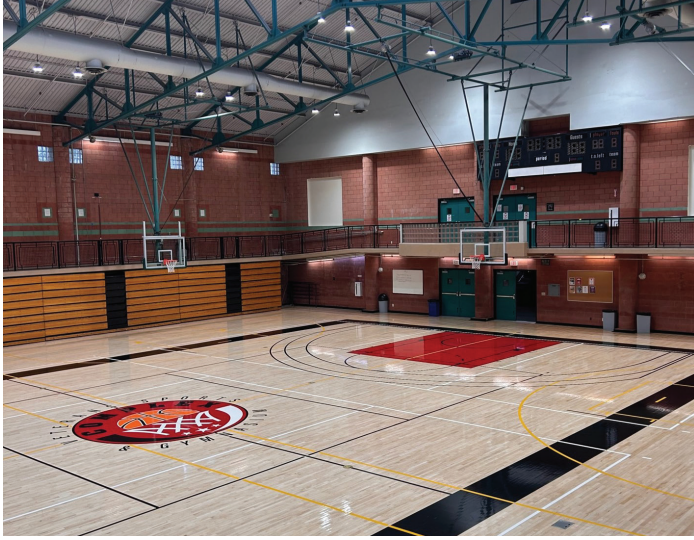


Walnut Mini-Park

440 E. Walnut St.
Carson, CA 90746
310-538-0018



FITNESS CENTERS



Veterans SportsComplex

22400 Moneta Ave.
Carson, CA 90745
310-830-9991



Carson Park Gym

21411 S. Orrick Ave.
Carson, CA 90745
310-830-4925



Fabela Chavez Boxing & Weightlifting Center

23410 Catskill Ave.
Carson, CA 90745
310-830-6439



Stevenson Park Gym

17400 Lysander Dr.
Carson, CA 90746
310-233-4880



AQUATIC CENTERS & POOLS



Dominguez Aquatic Center

21330 Santa Fe Ave.
Carson, CA 90810
310-830-2391



Carson Pool

21436 S. Main St.
Carson, CA 90745
310-830-1053



Hemingway Aquatic Center

16605 S. San Pedro St.
Carson, CA 90746
310-233-4861



Foisia Pool

23410 Catskill Ave.
Carson, CA 90745
310-549-9051

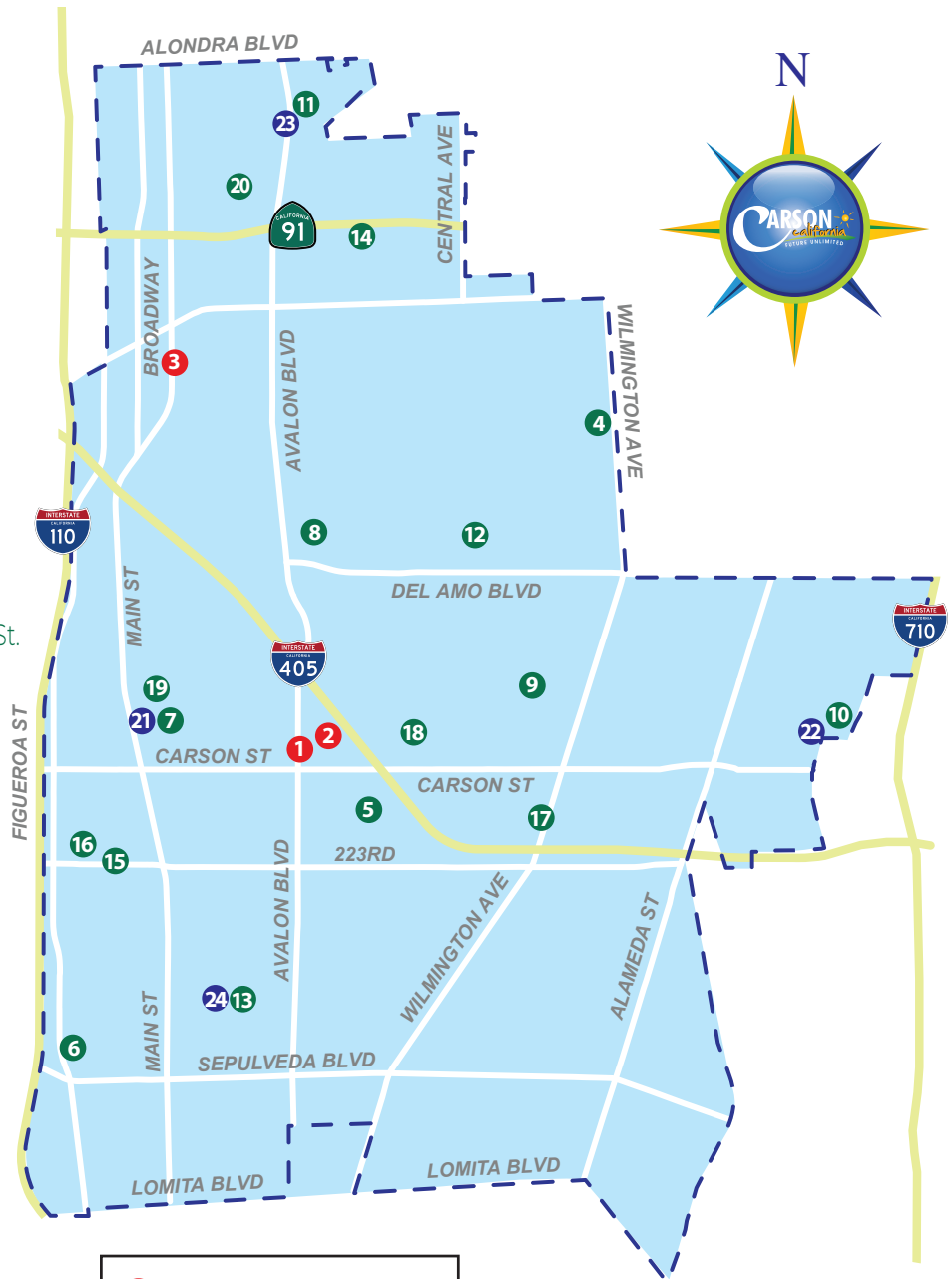


CITY FACILITIES

- 1 **Carson City Hall**, 701 E Carson St.
(310) 830-7600
- 2 **Carson Event Center**, 801 E. Carson St.
(310) 835-0212
- 3 **Corporate Yard**, 18601 S Main St.
(310) 847-3570

PARKS

- 4 **Anderson Park**, 19101 Wilmington Ave.
(310) 233-4840
- 5 **Calas Park**, 1000 E. 220th St.
(310) 518-3565
- 6 **Carriage Crest Park**, 23800 S. Figueroa St.
(310) 830-5601
- 7 **Carson Park**, 21411 S. Orrick Ave.
(310) 830-4925
- 8 **Del Amo Park**, 703 E. Del Amo Blvd.
(310) 233-4850
- 9 **Dolphin Park**, 21205 Water St.
(310) 549-4560
- 10 **Dominguez Park**, 21330 S. Santa Fe Ave.
(310) 549-3962
- 11 **Hemingway Park**, 700 E. Gardena Blvd.
(310) 233-4860
- 12 **Mills Park**, 1340 E. Dimondale Dr.
(310) 233-4870
- 13 **Foisia Park / Fabela Chavez Boxing & Fitness Center**, 23410 Catskill Ave.
(310) 830-8310
- 14 **Stevenson Park**, 17400 Lysander Dr.
(310) 233-4870
- 15 **Veterans Park**, 22400 Moneta Ave.
(310) 830-9997
- 16 **Veterans SportsComplex**, 22400 Moneta Ave.
(310) 830-9991
- 17 **Friendship Mini-Park**, 21930 Water St.
- 18 **Perry Street Mini-Park**, 215th and Perry St.
- 19 **Reflections Mini-Park**, 21208 Shearer Ave.
- 20 **Walnut Mini-Park**, 440 E. Walnut St.



●	CITY FACILITIES
●	PARKS
●	POOLS

POOLS

- 21 **Carson Pool**, 21436 S. Main St.
- 22 **Dominguez Aquatic Center**, 21330 Santa Fe Ave.
- 23 **Hemingway Aquatic Center**, 16605 S. San Pedro St.
- 24 **Foisia Pool**, 23410 Catskill Ave.



YOUTH SPORTS

Youth sports play a crucial role in the development of young individuals by promoting physical health, teamwork, and discipline. Participation in sports helps children and teenagers build self-esteem, develop social skills, and foster a sense of community. Moreover, engaging in regular physical activity through sports can lead to better academic performance and reduced stress levels. Our support for youth sports programs is essential to ensuring all children have the opportunity to benefit from these positive impacts, contributing to a healthier and more connected community.





ENRICHMENT

Cooking with Chef T. Jackson

Enrichment had its first official independent contract class, Cooking with Chef T., which ran its first session from June 14 through August 9, 2023, at four (4) park sites. The class is designed for children and adults, where Chef T. Jackson teaches families to come together and cook in the kitchen. The program has grown to its 5th session at seven (7) parks.



Ballet and Contemporary Dance Recital

The Enrichment Ballet and Contemporary classes held a highly anticipated recital at Carson Park. This event marked a significant milestone as it was the first recital since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. The program was attended by an enthusiastic audience of 150 guests who came to support and celebrate the hard work and dedication of approximately 40 talented performers. The event was a resounding success, showcasing the remarkable progress and resilience of the students.

Overall, the recital not only demonstrated artistic growth but also reinforced the strong sense of community and shared joy in reuniting through the performing arts.





Community Services Division

The Community Services Division is comprised of three sections: Community Center, Human Services, and Transportation. All three sections are housed at the Carson Event Center, formerly known as the Carson Community Center. Together, these sections successfully fulfill the needs of Carson’s diverse residents and visitors through a variety of inclusive services. These services encompass all ages and abilities to improve physical, mental, and social wellbeing of the community that supports the City’s motto of Future Unlimited.



HUMAN SERVICES

Human Services seeks to improve the quality of life for the Carson community through its Early Childhood Education, Social Services, Senior Services, Therapeutic Recreation, and Youth and Family Services programs. This section also hosts several City Special Events that celebrate identity, self-worth, and unity.



NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS 2022-2023

- Early Childhood: 75
- Youth and Family Services: 60
- Social Services: 355
- Therapeutic Recreation: 1,282
- Senior Services Aides: 30
- Senior Recreation: 6,642



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

The Early Childhood Center at the Community Center received an exciting upgrade with the installation of new turf in the outdoor playground

Qualified teachers offer an engaging hands-on curriculum called “World of Wonders” that follows State of California Department of Education guidelines. Children graduate this program well-prepared for kindergarten, both socially and academically.



Turf Upgrades on the Early Childhood Playground



The Early Childhood Center at the Community Center received an exciting upgrade with the installation of new turf in the outdoor playground area. Previously, a large tree in the area left behind an abundance of debris and insects, making

it less suitable for play. The playground was graded, and new furniture, including a gazebo, benches, tables, and interactive toy shelves with manipulatives were purchased. The new setup is cleaner, safer, and more engaging, featuring a

mud kitchen and a central grass area dedicated to improving gross motor skills with tunnels, mats, and a climbing log. These enhancements create a more enjoyable and beneficial environment for the children.





SOCIAL SERVICES

Social Services consists of the Joseph B. Jr. and Mary Anne O'Neal Stroke Center, as well as specialty programs such as Start Smart, Fit Happens, and the Intergenerational Program.

- The Stroke Center offers individual and group rehabilitation activities specifically designed to enhance the recovery of stroke survivors while providing opportunities to socialize.
- Start Smart is a non-competitive introduction to sports for children ages 2-5 and their parents/guardians.
- Fit Happens is an outdoor fitness class for adults that is designed for people of all fitness levels to help improve cardiovascular conditioning while building strength.
- The Intergenerational Program aims to bridge the generational gap by pairing high school seniors with senior citizens for a 6-week class with themes such as technology and health.



Stroke Center Testimonials

"We've been attending since December of 2013, and Romeo doesn't want to miss a day coming to the Stroke Center. He enjoys being with friends and participating in activities like volleyball and chair exercise."

- Dorothy and Romeo Laurel

"I love the staff and what they do. If it wasn't for the Stroke Center, there would be nowhere else to go."

- Nanjoo Park



SENIOR SERVICES

Senior Services is comprised of the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission, Senior Independence and Support, Senior Information and Referral, Senior Recreation, and the Senior Computer Lab. These sections are led by the Human Services Supervisor and two full-time assistant coordinators. This program provides information, activities, and services to enhance the wellbeing of people ages 50 and over.

- The Senior Citizens Advisory Commission provides feedback and recommendations on senior

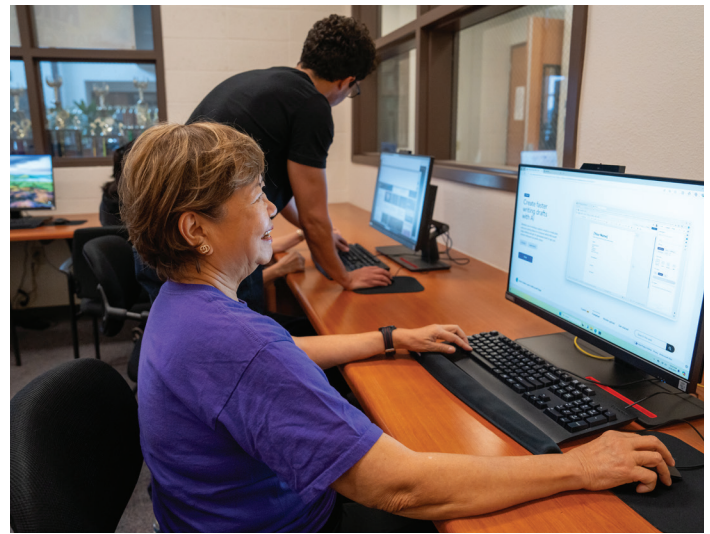
programming and issues that impact the senior population in the City.

- Senior Independence and Support offers the Senior Services Aide program, as well as Emergency Alert Response System (EARS program). Support programs include Bereavement Support Group, Caregiver Support Group, Senior Share, Silver Cheer, and quarterly Senior Resource Fairs.
- Senior Information and Referral partners with local organizations to refer seniors to tax assistance,

legal assistance, educational workshops, and health information.

- Senior Recreation promotes fitness, socialization, and fun through its engagement-based activities. These include in-person and virtual fitness programs, recreation classes, Senior Bingo, and quarterly luncheons.
- Senior Computer Lab is the on-site free computer lab at the Carson Event Center. Free computer classes teach basic personal computer use such as navigating the Internet and Microsoft Word.





Virtual Classes:

- Functional Fitness Participants: 341
- Yoga Participants: 535

In-person Classes: Stevenson Park

- Yoga Participants: 271
- Fitness Room Participants: 367
- Zumba Participants: 1,385

In-person Classes: Carson Park

- Hula Hoop Fitness Participants: 466
- Yoga Participants: 931
- Zumba Participants: 3,597

In-person Classes: Foisia Park/Gym

- Fitness Room Participants: 583
- Basketball Participants: 1,998
- Chess Group Participants: 117



THERAPEUTIC RECREATION

Therapeutic Recreation is designed to meet the recreational, social, and physical needs of individuals with disabilities. The goal of this program is to improve the quality of life for all participants through structured programming provided by trained staff.

Programming includes activities such as art, fitness, excursions, sports such as softball, bowling, track and field, basketball, and participation in the Special Olympics. Therapeutic Recreation is also proud to partner with Occupational Therapy faculty and students from CSUDH who

provide services to children and adults alike. In addition to the ongoing programs, Therapeutic Recreation staff plans and presents an annual Autism Awareness 5K Run walk at CSUDH.



Autism Awareness 5k Run/Walk

The Autism Awareness 5K Run/Walk, held at California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH), featured a vibrant resource fair, engaging entertainment, and exciting raffle prizes, bringing together participants and supporters from the community. This event aimed to raise awareness and promote understanding of autism, offering valuable resources and support to attendees. The lively atmosphere and diverse activities ensured an enjoyable experience for all, fostering a sense of unity and advocacy within the community.

Growing Through Grief

One of the wonderful services we offer to families is Growing Through Grief which helps families navigate life and parenthood after the loss of a partner. We understand that the loss of a partner is a tough journey, especially if you have children. Thinking about your mental health, the burnout, children’s grief, decision making, finances, relationships, and support systems can be challenging. However, we want you to know that you don’t have to go through it alone. We are here to help you navigate this journey-together.



Regular meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Dolphin Park. Free childcare is available during the meetings. For more information, please call (310) 952-1782 ext. 1671.



YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

Youth and Family Services offers support for at-risk families through in-home case management and innovative programs. These services strengthen family relations by encouraging healthy behaviors for all ages and genders. Programs offered by this section include: Dads Make a Difference, Stronger Together Ladies Club, Crafty Club, and Growing Through Grief Together.

HUMAN SERVICES: FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 GOALS

- Encourage the participation of the Senior Citizens Advisory Commission in City-sponsored events and collaborations with community organizations
- Introduce a new marketing effort (e-newsletter) to increase program and special event attendance and promote community awareness
- Add additional qualified staff in Early Childhood to expand the program
- Add additional part-time staff in Therapeutic Recreation to expand programs
- Re-introduce the Intergenerational Program through Rancho Dominguez Prep
- Partner with local schools through Youth and Family Services
- Offer speech therapy and water exercise activities through the Stroke Center



Community Services Events

Citywide Special Events in Human Services include Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration, Autism Awareness 5k, Earth Day KidsFest, Self-Care Health Fair, the Mariachi Fiesta, Cajun and Blues White Linen Festival, Women’s Health Conference, Heroes’ Day, and the Tree Lighting Ceremony.



Earth Day KidsFest



Black History Month



Mariachi Fiesta



Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration



Tree Lighting Ceremony



Women’s Health Conference



CARSON EVENT CENTER

With 40,000 square feet of space, the Carson Event Center offers a variety of inviting spaces and professional services to successfully host a diverse range of events that bring together Carson and its surrounding areas.

The Carson Event Center is comprised of two sections, Operations and Sales. Operations is responsible for daily facility maintenance, room setups, and assists in capital improvement planning. The goal of Operations is to ensure the Carson Event Center remains an inviting space for clients, staff, and visitors.

Sales meets with individual and business clients to coordinate conferences, trainings, weddings, celebrations, and other social gatherings. Sales works with the Carson Event Center's on-call caterer, Choura Venue Services, who provides full-service catering for individual clients, business clients, and City Events.



Carson Event Center: Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Goals

- Replace all mechanical walls in Main Halls A, B, and C
- Remodel outdoor patios outside of Main Hall A and Room 107
- Re-core all doors and replace all locks in East Wing section of the facility
- Remodel all staff offices including workspace re-design and furniture replacement
- Upgrade audiovisual (AV) system throughout the entire facility



TRANSPORTATION

Transportation provides an array of public transportation options for the community and City staff: Carson Circuit - the City's fixed-route public bus service; Dial-A-Ride - a specialized elderly and disabled transit program; Lyft - on-demand rideshare; transit in support of city park programs; and BREATHE, a staff-driven initiative to encourage the use of emission-reducing travel modes to the City's three major worksites. Transportation also works directly with LA Metro, South Bay Cities Council of Government (SBCCOG), and South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) on a variety of transportation policies, new initiatives, and funding opportunities.



Long Beach Transit total boardings- 150,000+

Lyft total boardings- 8,800+

Carson Circuit total boardings- 4,300+

Dial-A-Ride total boardings- 21,000+

Transportation: Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Goals

- Delivery of the City's first Battery Electric Buses (BEB) To prepare for their arrival, staff is working with the Information, Sustainability, and Project Management (ISPM) Department and Southern California Edison to assess and build the necessary infrastructure to support charging needs.
- Procurement to equip City buses with Computer-Aided Dispatch/Automatic Vehicle Location (CAD/AVL) technologies. Staff will be able to broadcast a live feed of its routes and buses for riders, issue public alerts for any service interruptions or delays and much more.





CITY OF CARSON'S 55th ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATING OUR HERITAGE AND EMBRACING OUR FUTURE

The City of Carson was formally incorporated on February 20, 1968, after many years of neglect as an unincorporated part of Los Angeles County. By a vote of 6,301 to 3,834, residents approved its independence.

Since then, the City has seen monumental growth and change, from a landscape of refuse dumps, landfills, and auto dismantling plants, to the construction of the South

Bay Pavilion and the Carson Civic Center (comprised of City Hall, a post office, sheriff station, the Community Center, and the DoubleTree Hotel), to the expansion of California State University, Dominguez Hills. As the City sets its sights on continued progress, the community can look forward to additional enhancements that will create a brighter future for its residents.

In 2023, the City of Carson had the opportunity to celebrate its many accomplishments during its 55th Anniversary. Five Special Events - the Gala Ball, Golf Tournament, 5K Fun Run/Walk, Street Fair, and Tour de Carson – honored this milestone and created an opportunities for residents and visitors to come together and commemorate the City's incredible history and look forward to the future



Gala Ball

Carson Event Center

The 55th Anniversary Gala Ball took place on February 25, 2023, at the Carson Event Center. The premier event of the Anniversary, the program included live music, dancing, and delicious food. Over 600 guests dressed up in their finest attire and celebrated the City of Carson's 55 years of success and excellence.



Golf Tournament



Lakewood Country Club

The 55th Anniversary Golf Tournament took place May 19, 2023, at the Lakewood Country Club. A total of 144 participants enjoyed a day of golf, sun, fun, and fresh air. Contestants were awarded trophies and certificates in various categories. Following the tournament, both golfers and volunteers attended a delicious lunch in the Banquet Hall





Carson Street Fair

The 55th Anniversary Street Fair took place on July 29, 2023, on Carson Street between Bonita Street and Civic Center Drive. The avenue was lined with food trucks, craft vendors, kids' activities, and a car show. The variety of live entertainment ensured there was something for everyone to enjoy: Mariachi Santa Monica; The Filharmonic; The Hooliganz; Kipper Jones, ft. Cornelius Mims and the Know-It-Alls; and the headliner, The SOS Band. This free, all-ages event truly showcased the diversity of Carson and brought the community together for a fun-filled family day!







Tour de Carson

City of Carson, CSUDH

The 55th Anniversary Tour de Carson took place on August 12, 2023, on courses that traversed the campus of California State University, Dominguez Hills, and throughout the City. The event featured two routes, the 20-mile Explorer Ride and the 9-mile Family Adventure Ride.

Avid riders and beginners alike enjoyed a day outdoors while experiencing the incredible sights of the City. Spectators also joined in the fun by participating in various activities and dined on food provided by numerous food vendors.



5K Fun Run/Walk, 55th Anniversary Fundraiser

The 55th Anniversary 5K Fun Run/Walk took place on May 6, 2023 at Carson Park. Participants kicked off the event with a warm-up at Carson Park then made their way down Dolores Street toward Carson High Steam School. Contestants enjoyed a day of healthy movement, food, and competition.





City of Carson *Special Events*



WinterFest



Juneteenth Celebration



Halloween Carnival



Samoan Heritage Day



Cinco de Mayo



Community Services and Recreation Welcomes Park Maintenance

Since being approved by the City Council, the Department of Community Services welcomes a new Division, Park Maintenance. Originally called Grounds and part of the Public Works Department, Park Maintenance is responsible for preserving and maintaining more than 79.25 acres of fields and landscaping at the City's sixteen parks, City Hall, the Carson Event Center, and the Corporate Yard. A team comprised of 28 highly-skilled

employees—Grounds Workers, lead personnel, a Mowing crew, and an Irrigation Technician—works to ensure that the exterior areas of the City's facilities exceed the expectations of Carson's residents. Services provided by the Division include trash removal, weed control, hedge trimming, turf maintenance, baseball infield maintenance, weed trimming and removal, mowing services, and irrigation management.

The addition of Park Maintenance to the Department allows for centralized management of the landscaping at the City's facilities and fosters greater communication and cooperation among Community Services staff. Ultimately, the community benefits from clean, safe, enjoyable, and aesthetically pleasing environments to spend time and enjoy.



Park Maintenance Projects

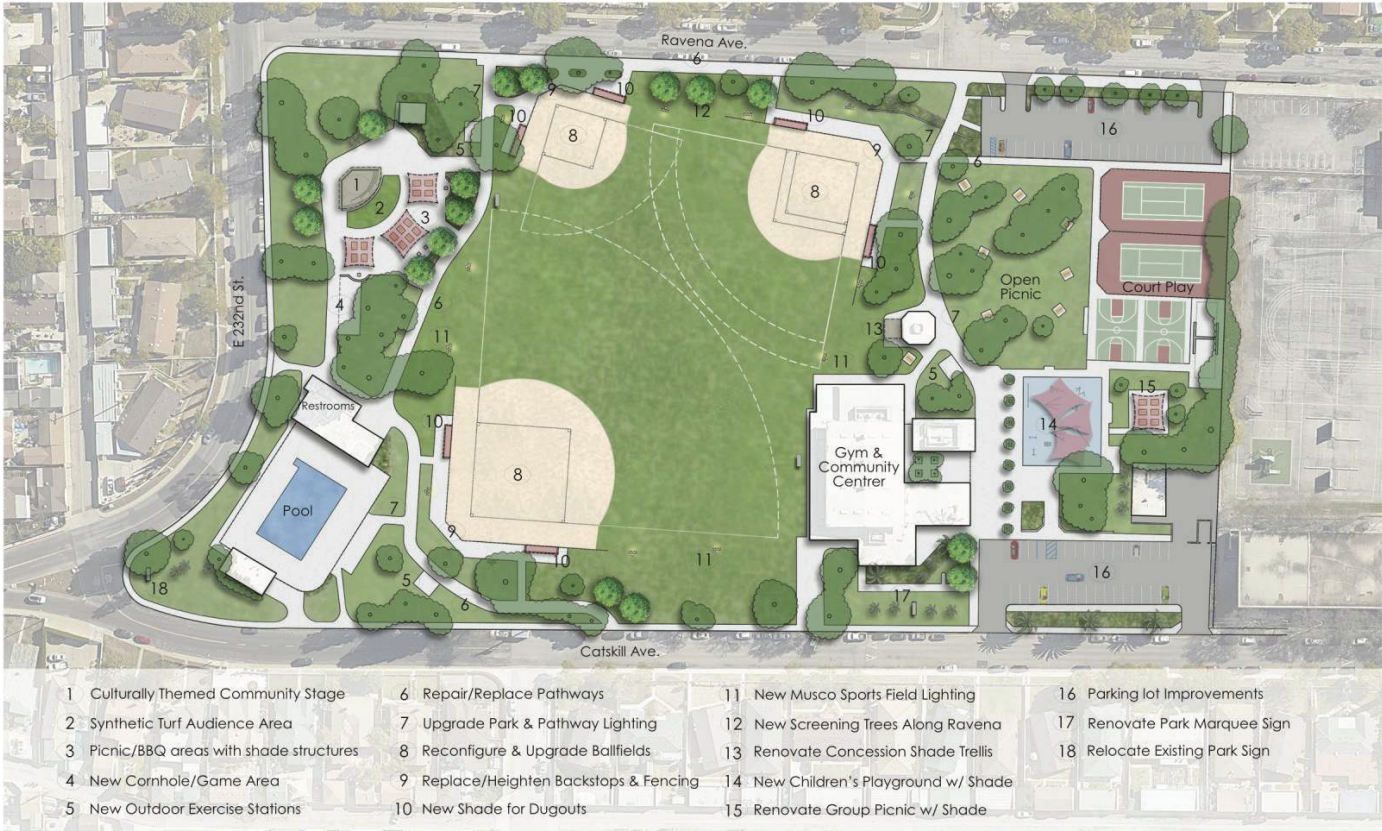
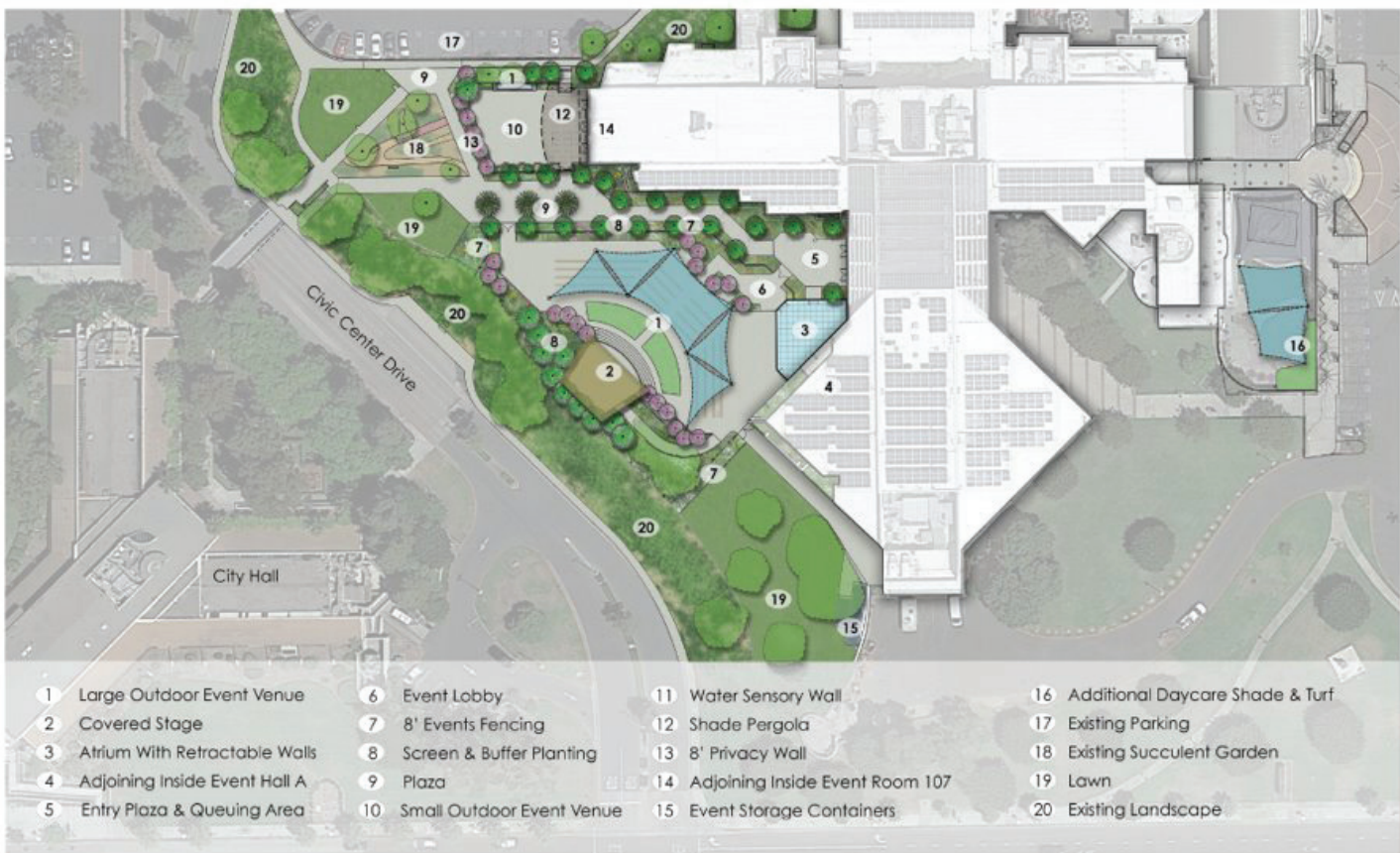




Capital Improvement Plan Projects

Exciting renovations are coming soon to Mills, Foisia, and Carriage Crest Park! These improvements will enhance the parks' facilities, offering families even more enjoyable and vibrant spaces to gather, play, and create lasting memories. Stay tuned for updates as we work to make our parks better than ever!





CONCEPT PLAN
Fosa Park Improvements
CITY OF CARSON, CA

ADL Planning Associates
September 5, 2023



Heartfelt Thank You to Our Volunteers

Carson is rich with opportunities for civic engagement. Every year, hundreds of residents give back to the community by donating their time, energy, and talents to the Department's parks,

programs, and special events.

The Department of Community Services/Recreation/Park Maintenance extends its heartfelt gratitude to all the dedicated

volunteers for their invaluable contributions and unwavering support. Your efforts have made a significant impact to the community and is deeply appreciated.



Volunteer Banquet, April 2023



LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE

With the year now concluded, there is much for residents to look forward to 2024 from the Department of Community Services/Recreation/Park Maintenance. Added security measures at the Civic Center, the Corporate Yard, and parks will be completed before year's end. In Recreation, significant progress on the design phase of several Capital Improvement Projects will be made, while other endeavors will commence. These projects will bring needed safety enhancements and/or amenities to the City's parks. New outdoor scoreboards have been installed on all multi-purpose fields. In addition, all outdoor basketball courts will be replaced to new breakaway goals for safety.

Additionally, 32 tennis court benches will be replaced. Last, and certainly not least, the highly anticipated Pickleball Courts will open at Hemingway Park.

The Community Services Division will continue to support the

diverse needs of Carson's most vulnerable residents: seniors, the disabled, and pre-school aged children. At the same time, the Division intends to seek new opportunities, including collaborations with outside agencies and organizations, that will improve the physical, mental, and social wellbeing of these segments of the community. Hiring new employees for Therapeutic Operations and Early Childhood Education are plans will bring these programs to full staffing levels, thereby responding to service commands. Transportation will move forward with a proposal to bring the first electric buses to the city, while procuring technology that will bring real-time updates regarding the city's fixed-route bus system to passengers. The Carson Event Center will press ahead with plans to renovate the exterior areas of Hall A and Room 107, which will expand the amount of rentable space.

In the Department's newest

Division, Park Maintenance, a Superintendent will be hired to bring leadership and direction to Park Maintenance operations and personnel. New equipment will be purchased that will enhance safety and aesthetics at all City facilities, and a contractor will be hired to provide additional support to maintain the landscaping at the newly renovated Civic Center.

The Department of Community Services has historically maintained an ambitious plate of initiatives as it heads into the new year. It believes that each of its endeavors will bring renewed energy to its programs and services, as it also affirms its ongoing commitment to improving its many facilities. While the Department takes great pride in all it achieved in 2023, there is more to be done and accomplished. Staff looks forward to sharing these with you in the next Department of Community Services/Recreation/Park Maintenance Annual Report.

Elected Officials

Lula Davis-Holmes, Mayor
Jawane Hilton, Mayor Pro Tempore, District 1
Jim Dear, Council Member, District 2
Cedric L. Hicks, Sr., Council Member, District 3
Arleen Bocatija Ramos, Council Member, District 4

Dr. Khaleah Bradshaw, City Clerk
Monica Cooper, City Treasurer

City Administration

David Roberts, City Manager
John S. Raymond, Assistant City Manager-
Economic Development
Dr. Robert Lennox, Assistant City Manager-
Administrative Services
Tarik Rahmani, Deputy City Manager
Michael Whittiker, Jr., Director of Community
Services/Recreation/Park Maintenance
Tim Grierson, Recreation Superintendent
Bobby Grove, Community Services Superintendent
Modesto Bolanos, Park Maintenance Superintendent

Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Commission

Jesus-Alex Cainglet, Chair
Shannon Lawrence, Vice Chair
Kimberly Cortado, Secretary
Rudolfo Brillantes
Cesar Dahilig, Jr.
Walter Gonzalez
Kisa Hilliard
Edwina Hunter
Jo Jacqueline Johnson
DeAnthony Langston
Oscar Ramos
Kelvin Brown, Sr.

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