# CITY OF CARSON COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

18601 S. Main Street, Carson CA 90248

Robert Lennox, Director Luchie Magante, Principal Administrative Analyst Evelyn Castaneda, Administrative Secretary



Tim Grierson, Recreation Superintendent Mike Whittiker, Human Services Manager Adrian Reynosa, Community Center Manager Jason Jo, Transportation Services Supervisor

The Community Services Department is comprised of five divisions: Administration, Community Center, Transportation, Recreation and Human Services. The Department delivers services and programs to support citizens' diverse interests in parks, recreation, and culture. This includes operating and maintaining twelve (12) parks and four (4) mini-parks, two (2) aquatic centers and two (2) pools, a sports complex, and a boxing and weightlifting center. The Community Center offers 40,000 square feet of versatile meeting and event space including 12,000 square foot ballroom and meeting rooms that accommodate between 5 and 1,200 guests, and state-of-the-art visual services. And the Transportation Services Division provides citywide transportation programs related to improving the fixed-route public transit system, specialized elderly and disabled transit, transit support of city park programs, and regional air quality issues.

## RECREATION DIVISION

The Reservations Section continues to follow Los Angeles County Rules and Regulations to include COVID-19 information for all reservations indoor and outdoor picnic grass/shelter areas at all parks in January. For the month of January, there were a total of 5 permits scheduled. Currently, the permits department handled 4 indoor, 1 outdoor (picnic grass/shelter) reservations for January. We had over 150 calls and inquiry for park fees and availability. Due to the COVID-19 surge, many reservations were cancelled.

January Revenue \$1,408.00

#### **ADULT SPORTS**

\*Note: Revenue is not indicative of weekly/monthly totals; the amount reported represents what was collected at the beginning of the season.

#### Fall Season (September-December)

Sport	TEAMS	Leagues	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT	*REVENUE
Baseball	32	2	111	241	\$13,440
Basketball	20	3	39	101	\$4,400
Coed Softball	15	3	91	74	\$6,300
Men Softball	7	2	43	34	\$2,940
Total	74	10	284	450	\$27,080

Adult Sports fall season began in September and was scheduled to end in December for baseball and softball, but due to inclement weather it was extended to January. The new Winter season is starting in February for baseball and softball. Basketball started in October and was expected to end in January, but due to indoor programs being cancelled for the month of January, the season will end in February and soon after the start of the new season will begin.

Adult Sports is introducing pickle ball to the City of Carson. On January 22<sup>nd</sup>, a demonstration took place at Hemingway Park that brought out a total of 130 people from Carson and other surrounding cities to participate. Another demonstration is being planned for the month of February. There is a high demand for pickle ball and the department is considering the resurfacing of tennis courts to include pickle ball lines.

## **YOUTH SPORTS**

The Winter Basketball season began with tryouts on the week of December 6<sup>th</sup> and drafts completed by December 14<sup>th</sup>. Teams were practicing before the Winter Break and were scheduled to play their first game the week of January 8<sup>th</sup>. With the surge of COVID cases rising, basketball games were postponed, and all practices were moved outdoors. Games have been scheduled to start on February 5<sup>th</sup>.

#### YOUTH SPORTS BASKETBALL TEAMS 2022

PARK	SL	RK	B1A	B2A	ВЗА	B4A	G1A	G2A	G3A	TEAMS	PARTIC- IPANTS	RESIDENT	NON- RESIDENT	REVENUE
Anderson	1	1	1	1						5	46	36	10	\$4,835
Calas		2	1	1	1			1		6	53	44	9	\$5,260
Carson	3	4	5	4	2	1	2	1	1	23	203	195	8	\$19,485
Del Amo	1	2	2	1	1					7	61	54	7	\$5,400
Dolphin		1		1				1		3	23	20	3	\$2,260
Dominguez	1	1	1	1	1					5	47	43	4	\$4,595
Foisia	2	3	3	3	1	1	2	2	1	18	154	133	21	\$15,205
Hemingway	1	1	1	2	1	1		1		8	81	47	34	\$8,545
Mills			1							1	12	10	2	\$1,190
Stevenson	1	2	2	3	2	1		1	1	13	118	102	16	\$11,610
Veterans	4	6	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	22	200	168	32	\$19,800
TOTAL	14	24	19	20	12	5	5	8	4	11	998	852	146	\$98,185

Currently the Recreation division is working with the City Attorney and the Los Angeles Unified School District on a Joint Use Agreement (JUA). Within the next month or so, we hope that both sides can agree on the terms and the contract can be brought forward to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts commission then onto City Council for approval.

# **ENRICHMENT CLASSES**

Winter classes began with PRAXIS the week of January 10, 2022. Classes will resume on ZOOM. The other Enrichment classes were pushed one more week and started virtually the week of January 24<sup>th</sup>. Classes are scheduled to end on

WEEK	GUITAR	PIANO	PRAXIS	REVENUE
1/3-1/7	0	0	0	
1/10-1/14	0	0	10	
1/17-1/21			10	
1/24-1/28	4	7	10	\$599
Month Total	4	7	30	\$599
FYTD Total	4	7	30	\$599

## PREVENTION AND AFTERCARE SERVICES

Week	New Clients	Open Cases	Closed Cases	Referrals Received	Extra Linkages
1/3-1/6	0	8	2	0	6
1/10-1/13	0	8	0	2	5
1/17-1/20	0	8	0	0	4
1/24-1/27	0	8	0	0	7
1/31	0	8	0	0	1
Month Total	0	8	2	0	23
FYTD Total	31	N/A	31	122	367

Prevention and Aftercare services consist of case navigation, resources, and referrals to families with children under the age of 18 in the home. These families are referred by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), other organizations, or can be self-referred. Case navigation consists of one on one communication between the case navigator and the family on a weekly basis to discuss struggles, accomplishments and goals. Extra linkages can be provided to families who do not need case navigation. These linkages may include but are not limited to food giveaways, counseling services, tutoring or housing services. Case navigation has been taking place via phone/virtually due to COVID restrictions, but is slowly going back to in person upon health review with client and comfort levels. Social connection groups that include, Zumba, Yoga, Crafty Club, and Community Garden are on hold until further notice due to COVID.

## **KIDS CLUB**

Kids Club participants continue to test weekly to show proof of their negative COVID test result from school. Staff also continue to provide weekly COVID test results to HR/Risk Management while working the Kids Club program. Hours of operation are Monday thru Friday 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Winter Break Camp was held from 12/20/21-1/7/22. Camp was offered at Calas, Carson, Del Amo, Dolphin, Mills, and Veterans Park.

KIDS CLUB

Week	Calas	Carson	Del Amo	Dolphin	Mills	Veterans	Totals
1/3-1/7 Winter Camp	6	11	10	7	7	15	56
1/10-1/14	11	11	6	10	0	19	57
1/17-1/21	14	12	5	10	0	26	67
1/24-1/28	13	17	6	10	0	24	70
Month Total	44	51	27	37	7	84	250
FYTD Total	292	437	210	409	13	507	1,868

#### KIDS CLUB REVENUE

Week	Calas	Carson	Del Amo	Dolphin	Mills	Veterans	Totals
1/3-1/7 Winter Camp	\$450	\$835	\$540	\$420	\$210	\$2,024	\$4,479
1/10-1/14	\$535	\$545	\$300	\$500		\$950	\$2,830
1/17-1/21	\$685	\$605	\$450	\$500		\$1,310	\$3,550
1/24-1/28	\$635	\$875	\$300	\$480		\$1,145	\$3,435
Month Total	\$2,305	\$2,860	\$1,590	\$1,900		\$5,429	\$14,294

# **AQUATICS**

Aquatics is currently preparing for the upcoming 2022 Spring Season with facility rentals and Aquatics Programming.

Our upcoming pool rentals are from two local High Schools and 1 local College. The high school swim team season starts on Monday, January 31, 2022 for both Carson High School and Rancho Dominguez High School. Carson High School will practice at Foisia Pool and Rancho Dominguez High School will practice at Dominguez Aquatic Center. Both practices are between 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Monday – Friday. Cal State University of Dominguez Hills is anticipated to start their Spring Semester Swim Courses on February 14, 2022 at Hemingway Aquatic Center. All pool rentals are anticipated to end in May.

Aquatics Programming is set to begin on March 7, 2022 and will take place at Hemingway Aquatic Center for Aqua Aerobics, Lap Swim, and Swim Lessons. Dominguez Aquatic Center will have Recreation Swim; while Foisia Pool will have Swim Conditioning and Lap Swim. The Spring Season will end in mid-May. The following are the current Aquatics Programming Schedule that is subject to change due to staffing shortage.

During the month, Aquatic staff have assisted in other sections within the department on day-to-day tasks, such as: Essentials to Go Deliveries, Grab and Go, COVID Test Site, Community Center – Front Desk, and assisting the Reservations group with setup/breakdown of holiday decorations.

Aquatics Admin staff participated in a month-long Instructor recertification while also getting familiar with new American Red Cross updates. Upon completion of our American Red Cross Instructor status, Admin staff can continue to certify Professional Lifesaving Personnel in the following: Lifeguarding, CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers, First Aid, Bloodborne Pathogens/PDT, Emergency Oxygen Administration, Title 22 (First Aid for Public Safety Personnel). Admin Staff are also able to certify Lay Responders (Non-Lifesaving Personnel) in CPR/AED and Standard First Aid. If needed, staff are also able to certify in Epi-Pen, Asthma Inhaler, Babysitter's Training, and much more. Once the American Red Cross BPO is set, staff will be certifying/recertifying about 200 staff throughout the Department.

#### **VETERANS SPORTSCOMPLEX**

The facility was closed for the entire month of January due to COVID. Indoor activities, programs and classes will resume on Monday, February 7, 2022.

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The City is still waiting on notification of awards for the competitive grant application that was submitted on Thursday, October 28, 2021. City Council approved Resolution No. 21-125 that allows the City Manager to submit applications for grant funds from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for Measure A Funding. With the approved Resolution No. 21-125, the City of Carson applied for the competitive "Regional Recreation Facilities, Multi-use Trails and Accessibility" grant. The City is seeking a competitive grant just under one million dollars to help fund the Mills Park Improvement Project that includes remote restroom, monument sign, concrete splash pad, picnic shelters (3), and installation of shade structures for playground (2), building entrances, and outdoor fitness area.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

## MLK THE LEGACY

The annual Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a virtual event. It first aired on Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, and the theme was "Injustice Anywhere is a Threat to Justice Everywhere." It featured speeches by elected officials, a performance by Sophisticated Dance, musical performances by Rapha Music, and educational video presentations. It was featured on the city's website and local cable channels.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**CESAR CHAVEZ TRIBUTE** 

Date & Time: Friday March 25, 2022 – 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Location: Dominguez Park

# **HUMAN SERVICES**

### STROKE CENTER

All indoor classes were suspended in January due to the surge in COVID-19 cases. However, it is now open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. for Occupational Therapy appointments ONLY held outdoors in the breezeway in front of the Center. To help facilitate the process, staff moved a massage worktable outdoors, in addition to hand-held equipment and any supplies required by Dr. Paul Penoliar. Dr. Penoliar will treat five (5) patients a day every week until the last week of January, observed by his four (4) CSUDH interns between 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., allowing sufficient time for patient planning, treatment, and discussion.

Stroke Center staff, led by Mr. Nathan Caukin and fully supported by Mr. Tony Zuniga, are always on hand to provide assistance, scheduling, and general supervision of the Stroke Center. During each patient's appointment, they are also present, ensuring that all COVID-19 protocols are adhered to by staff and patrons alike. In addition, the Stroke Center staff have compiled a calendar of programs and classes, both virtual and in-person, to be conducted Tuesday through Thursday, allowing for more consistent movement, exercise, and socialization opportunities for our stroke survivors. The Stroke Center is cleaned and sanitized after each meeting, and a deeper, more thorough cleaning is completed at the end of each day by custodial staff.

## SENIOR RECREATION

Senior Recreation continues to administer Virtual Zoom fitness and dance classes run by two (2) designated staff members. These classes are held Tuesday through Thursday from 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m., with a fluctuation of attendance ranging from 6 to 15 students per class.

WEEK	FUNCTIONAL FITNESS	SALSA	YOGA
WLLK	FUNCTIONAL FIINESS	SALSA	IOGA
1/3 – 1/7	No Session	No Session	11
1/10 – 1/14	9	6	13
1/17 – 1/21	13	5	12
1/24 – 1/28	9	9	12
1/31	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY
Month Total	31	20	48
FYTD Total	670	311	786

# SENIOR VIRTUAL CLASSES

There are no current in-person classes at Carson Park, Stevenson Park, and Foisia Park due to the surge in COVID-19 cases. However, the staff is hoping to resume classes in February.

## SENIOR SOCIAL SERVICES

Senior Social Services has again placed all in-person programming on hold for the entire month of January. However, assistance continued telephonically and virtually as it will throughout the COVID pandemic. Staff continues to do everything possible to ensure homebound seniors can stay at home safely while having their essential needs met. For example, through contactless visits, the Geriatric Aides provide lunches to seniors throughout the week and run errands, including trips to the grocery store and pharmacy, and

assistance with essential chores that keep seniors home safe while maintaining their independence. We continue to add seniors to our list of contactless visits for this type of assistance.

The Assisted Living program assists other departments, including Code Enforcement, Housing, and Transportation. With support from the Geriatric Aide staff, the coordinator visits seniors with no means of transportation to assist with completing Dial-A-Ride applications (DAR), Carson Essentials 2.0 verification, Code Enforcement Hoarding cases, and general welfare checks.

Keeping abreast of resources developed through the county, state, and federal programs has been essential in providing our seniors with the latest programs they may be eligible for, along with organizations and community partners that continue to offer virtual programming. In addition, welfare checks continue in collaboration with the county's adult protective services and the Carson Sheriff station, and calls regarding homelessness and housing continue to increase.

The Senior Share program, Bereavement Support Group, and Caregiver Support Groups did not meet in January due to the COVID surge. However, staff contacted all participants, and meetings will resume when the guidelines are lifted. Additional programming will continue, including the requested educational courses on aging.

The Silver Cheer program will occur in February. To help exhilarate our homebound seniors, the Kiwanis of Carson and employees have expressed interest in participating. Planning has begun for a second Mental Health Resource event. The event will be held virtually on May 7<sup>th</sup>, with panelists and breakout sessions from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

The annual Homeless Count, initially scheduled for Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, at the Community Center, was postponed by LAHSA until February due to uncertainties regarding the surge of COVID. Volunteers have registered on LAHSA's portal, and staff has attended Deployment Site Coordinator training. The volunteers will utilize the smartphone app for safety precautions during the pandemic. The deployment site will be a drive-thru set up in the East Wing parking lot of the Community Center.

## **EARLY CHILDHOOD**

During January, when the weather is colder and the days are shorter, the Early Childhood program focused on the winter season and animals. The class learned that animals do many different and unique things to get through winters. For example, animals migrate to other locations where the weather is warmer. In addition, some animals hibernate part of the winter, some hibernate all winter, and others adapt to the climate.

Early Childhood children also celebrated National Popcorn Day on January 19<sup>th</sup>. All classes watched a movie while enjoying their popcorn.

The approximate revenue for the month of January is \$31,345.

## **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

	In-Pe	erson	In-Person
WEEK	AM	PM	FT
1/3 – 1/7	25	13	36
1/10 – 1/14	25	13	36
1/17- 1/21	25	13	36
1/24 – 1/28	25	13	36
Month Total	100	52	144
FYTD Total	616	363	1168

#### THERAPEUTIC RECREATION

The winter programming session began this month with Virtual Social Club and Adventures in Art classes. Registration went well with both programs reaching maximum enrollment numbers. Some highlights included a virtual field trip to Doscher's Candies and scratch art key chains. The Skill Builders OT program will convene on February 7<sup>th</sup>.

The approximate revenue for the month of January was \$100.00.

APEUTIC	

WEEK	SOCIAL CLUB	ART & CRAFTS	Skill Builders OT
1/3 – 1/7	No class	No class	No class
1/10 – 1/14	7	4	No class
1/17 -1/21	7	4	No class
1/24 – 1/28	8	4	No class
1/31	No class	No class	No class
Month Total	22	12	
FYTD Total	22	12	

## SPECIAL INTEREST CLASSES

Start Smart Basketball will resume the second week of February 2022 at Carson Park. The Monday and Wednesday classes quickly filled up; however, staff added a Tuesday session allowing for the overflow of interest and participation. Due to the postponement of all indoor sessions and participants' young age, staff is contacting parents to see if there is any interest should it become necessary to hold the classes outdoors. Hopes are high that restrictions be lifted before the start date to allow indoor programming.

## **COVID TASK FORCE**

The COVID Task Force was initially created to assist the community with emergency programs and resources needed for the COVID-19 pandemic. However, over the past year, the needs of the community have evolved from assisting and feeding many residents, to providing COVID testing, supporting homebound seniors, collaborating with outside organizations, and providing vaccinations.

Staff's biggest challenge was creating innovative ways to deliver these services to an elderly population with little technical knowledge. To solve this issue, staff created call centers to answer questions from the community, provide welfare checks to homebound seniors, and distribute flyers of all current programs, including our daily Grab-N-Go lunch program. Currently, the infection rate has increased, thereby increasing the number of testing days and vaccination pop-ups.

WEEK	CALL CTR	GRAB & GO MEALS	TEST SITE CALL CTR	TEST SITE TEST GIVEN	TEST SITE HOME VISITS	CETG 2.0
1/3-1/6	0	1500	26	0	0	21
1/10-1/13	0	1500	35	0	0	40
1/17-1/20	0	1200	14	0	0	28
1/24-1/27	0	1500	0	0	0	0
Month Totals	0	5700	75	0	0	89
FYTD Total	17,217	249,230	9,685	45,334	113	2,181

Discontinued Programs - Carson Essentials to Go: 1,656; Food Distribution: 300; Meals on Wheels: 11,146

## **COMMUNITY CENTER**

## **RENTALS**

As of January 3, 2022, all event attendees are required to submit a COVID negative test result 72 hours prior to the scheduled event date. This requirement did result in the cancellation or rescheduling of several events for the month.

The Community Center is open for rentals. Data for the month of January is as follows:

WEEK	INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	REVENUE	FY 21-22 Revenue YTD	FY 21-22 External YTD
1/02 – 1/08		2	328.00	49,801.15	74
1/09 – 1/15		2	328.00	46,892.20	53
1/16 – 1/22		3	1,087.00	58,115.80	54
1/23 – 1/29		3	1,135.50	60,348.60	70
Monthly Total		10	2,878.50	215,157.75	251

## **FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS**

The Audio Visual and Lighting upgrades work to the Main Halls and Carson-Dominguez have begun. The vendor, MediaStar Inc., is focusing its efforts on Hall B and will schedule the remaining Halls accordingly, then move to Carson-Dominguez. The project is anticipated to be complete by the end of February 2022.

Staff is finalizing costs for a multi-component improvement project that consists of new flooring options throughout the facility other than carpet, replacement of the workstations at the front receptionist area, artificial turf for the atrium, and replacing the umbrella light fixtures in the West Wing and Patio. Staff will present the project in a staff report at a future City Council meeting for consideration.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

The City of Carson's Transportation Division provides city-wide transportation programs including fixed-route public bus service, first mile/last mile ride-hail services (Lyft), specialized elderly and disabled transportation (Dial-A-Ride/Access), and bus transportation in support of City parks and youth programs. 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.

## **CARSON CIRCUIT**

The Disaster Council suspended the Carson Circuit effective March 28, 2020 out of safety concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the possibility of spreading the virus to passengers and bus operators.

As of September 27, 2021, Long Beach Transit (LBT) is providing fixed-route bus services in Carson across three (3) new routes. Riders can now travel down major surface streets in both directions and make faster connections to major destinations and neighboring bus lines. Service hours and route schedule can be accessed through <a href="https://ridelbt.com/carson/">https://ridelbt.com/carson/</a>.

In comparison to the prior month, December ridership saw a modest increase in ridership across Routes 4 and 8, but a dip on Route 2 – CSUDH due to winter break schedules. Staff anticipates gradual increases in ridership as riders continue to hear about the new service.

Long Beach Transit Ridership

Route	Passenger Boardings	Revenue Miles*	Revenue Hours**
2	1,424	5,740	442
4	4,385	5,651	631
8	1,147	6,799	655
Dec 2021 Totals	6,956	18,190	1,729
Prior Nov 2021	7,042	18,754	1,786

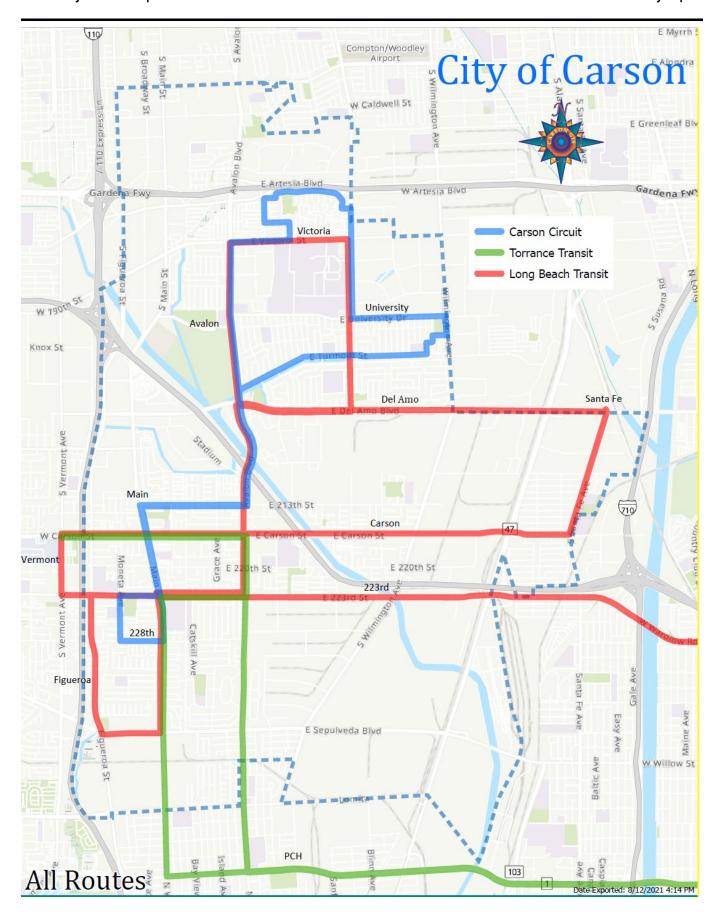
<sup>\*</sup>Miles traveled while performing route

In conjunction with this new service, the Carson Circuit was reestablished effective January 3, 2022 as a staff-operated service in the form of two (2) new routes. The new Carson Circuit service runs concurrently with LBT, helping Carson students travel to and from their respective schools, and provide easier connections to LBT and neighboring bus lines.

To better meet the needs of Carson riders, service operates during peak commuting times between 7:00 a.m. – 9:55 a.m., and again from 2:00 p.m. – 4:55 p.m. These modifications were also supported by the City's recently completed Comprehensive Operations Analysis, or route study. The launch of this new service is currently being advertised through the City's social media pages, flyers, and more.

- Carson Circuit map following page-

<sup>\*\*</sup>Hours incurred while performing route



## **DIAL-A-RIDE**

Through the end of the declared pandemic, Dial-A-Ride service has been made available to Carson residents of all ages, with or without disabilities. Participants can order on-demand taxi service and receive a 50% discount off their ride. As of March 2021, Carson residents can take advantage of complimentary no-cost taxi rides TO and FROM any City-designated vaccination site falling within three (3) miles of City boundaries. Taxi drivers will stay with the riders throughout the entire process, ensuring both a safe and worry-free return.

Compared to same-month ridership in 2020, ridership in December 2021 experienced a modest increase by approximately 6%. This can most likely be attributed to the steady drops in positive COVID-19 cases.

## DIAL-A-RIDE RIDERSHIP[1]

	Total Rides	Total Passengers	Avg Trips per Day	Avg Cost per Trip
December 2021	1,372	1,736	44	\$12.29
December 2020 comparison	1,297	1,811	42	\$13.10
CY 2021 YTD	16,476	24,409	45	\$14.30

### **LYFT**

Carson residents are eligible to receive a 50% discount off the cost of their Lyft ride. Riders pay half, City pays half, up to a maximum trip cost of \$20. Participants must 18 years of age or older to ride alone. Rides must start AND end within City boundaries.

#### LYFT RIDERSHIP[1]

	Total Rides	Avg total cost per trip	Avg trip cost to rider
December 2021	718	\$11.36	\$5.56
December 2020 comparison	473	\$ 6.91	\$3.41
FYTD 21-22	3,637	\$11.85	\$5.81
April 2020* - present	8,786	\$ 9.95	\$4.51

<sup>\*</sup>Start of City partnership with Lyft.

Majority of rides took 7-8 minutes in duration, 7.6 miles in distance. Average trip costs are rising due to:

Compared to ridership during the same time last year, ridership in December 2021 increased by over 51%. This can most likely be attributed to the steady drops in positive COVID-19 cases.

## **FUTURE PLANS**

To compliment the new LBT and proposed Carson Circuit bus routes, staff is working on a future capital improvement plan to purchase new bus shelters and benches. The shelters will be similar to the newer silver models along Carson St. and CSUDH. Staff is working towards replacing all of the remaining shelters by FY 24 in an effort to create a modern and uniform look throughout the City.

<sup>1)</sup> increased ride times from traffic returning to pre-pandemic levels and; 2) nationwide shortage of drivers/gig workers.

<sup>[1]</sup> Data received directly from contractor; statistics delayed due to internal review by contractor before release