

Claremont Fourth of July Information

Get ready for a fun filled 4th of July! Here's how you can be a part of Claremont's biggest event:

Theme Contest

All Claremont students in grades K-6 are invited to enter their ideas for the theme of the 74th Annual 4th of July Celebration. Each theme submitted must be five words or less and have no more than 36 characters. The student with the winning entry will receive fireworks tickets, a certificate, a special place in the parade and will lead the flag salute at the Flag Raising Ceremony. The deadline to submit an entry in the Theme Contest is March 13, 2024.

National Anthem Contest

The 2024 Independence Day Committee is holding auditions on April 17, 2024 at 7 pm in the Padua Room of the Alexander Hughes Community Center (1700 Danbury Rd) in search of the next National Anthem Contest Winner. Entrants must be in grades 4-12 and either reside in Claremont or attend a Claremont school. The winner will receive fireworks tickets, a special place in the parade and will perform the National Anthem at the Fireworks Show and Flag Raising Ceremony. Runners-up will be selected to perform at the Freedom 5000 or Concerts in the Park. The deadline to submit an entry in the National Anthem Contest is April 11, 2024.

Nominees for this Year's 4th of July Honorees

Nominations are now being accepted for this year's Grand Marshal, Honored Citizen and Honored Community Group to be recognized at the 4th of July Celebration. Nominees must live, work, attend school, or have graduated from a school in Claremont. Please think about your neighbors, friends, colleagues, and family members and take a moment to recognize their efforts. Honorees will be presented with certificates at the Flag Raising Ceremony and will also appear in the official parade on July 4, 2024. The nomination deadline is April 11, 2024.

Festival Booth

Booths are available to Claremont non-profit organizations and are an excellent way to raise awareness and/or funds for your organization. The festival is open from 10 am to 2 pm at Memorial Park. Booth fees range from \$25-\$125 depending on whether it is an information, game, selling or food booth. The food booth application deadline is April 1, 2024. The application deadline is May 1, 2024.



Parade Entry

Businesses, non-profit organizations, families and individuals are invited to enter the annual 4th of July parade. The parade starts at 10 am and encompasses a one-mile route that begins at Memorial Park, travels south on Indian Hill Boulevard, west on Harrison Avenue and ends at Larkin Park. Parade entry forms are due by June 3, 2024.

Claremont Village Freedom 5000 on June 29, 2024

The Claremont Village Freedom 5000 is a family-friendly event that kicks off Claremont's annual Fourth of July Celebration. The event features a 1K Kids Fun Run, a 5K Run, and a 5K Walk/Competitive Race Walk through the scenic tree-lined streets of Claremont. The 1K Kids Fun Run for ages 12 and under takes place at 7:30 am. Everyone in the 1K Kids Fun Run receives a medal. The 5K Run/Walk begins at 8 am. Gold, silver, and bronze medals are awarded to the top three male and top three female finishers in each age division. A special award is given to the top male and top female overall finishers. Regular registration ends June 27, 2024 at 11:59 pm and prices increase for late registration. Race shirt availability is not guaranteed for late registrations, so please register early! For more information or to register, please go to www.claremont4th.org.

Fireworks Tickets on Sale June 1st!

Tickets for the Fireworks Show will go on sale Saturday, June 1, 2024. The gates at Pomona College's Strehle Track open at 6:30 pm and reggae band Upstream will play from 6:45 pm to 8:45 pm. The fireworks show by Pyrospectaculars will begin at 9 pm. Kiwanis Club BBQ dinner will also be available for sale. Tickets for the show are \$10 pre-sale and at the gate, if available.

Additional information may be found on the City's Website under Special Events or you may contact the Recreation and Human Services Department at (909) 399-5490 or by email at SpecialEvents@ci.claremont.ca.us.



College Avenue at Green Street Bike and Pedestrian Improvements Project

The City will begin construction on the College Avenue at Green Street Bike and Pedestrian Improvements Project in March 2024. This project will provide bicycle and pedestrian improvements on College Avenue by relocating the existing traffic signal currently located at Kirkwood Avenue to the intersection of College Avenue at Green Street. For safety purposes, the traffic signal at Kirkwood Avenue will remain in place until the traffic signal at Green Street can be constructed and activated. In addition, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements will be made at the intersections of Kirkwood Avenue and Green Street including curb extensions, count down pedestrian leads, hands-free push buttons to activate the pedestrian crossing, and pedestrian lead timing. Additionally, the roadway will be re-stripped and resurfaced. This project is being coordinated with the Claremont Unified School District and is anticipated to be completed in June 2024.

Thompson Creek Trail Pedestrian Crossing Project

Improvements to the Thompson Creek Trail crossing at Mountain Avenue began in February 2024. This project includes pedestrian safety and driver awareness improvements at the trail crossing at Mountain Avenue. The project includes new signage and striping supporting pedestrian, equestrian and bicycle transportation. New striping improvements include rumble strips, "TRAIL XING" pavement markings, bicycle share the road markings or "Sharrows" and speed limit pavement markings. New warning signs will be installed to alert drivers of the presence of pedestrian, bicyclists and equestrian use. The project also includes additional safety components, such as driver feedback speed signs and rectangular rapid flashing beacons. These additional components will be installed as part of a second phase of this project, pending Los Angeles County Department of Public Works approval. Questions regarding this project can be directed to the Engineering Division at (909) 399-5465.

City E-Bike Program Success

The Claremont E-Bike Rebate Program and GoSGV Program subsidy has added over 150 new e-bikes to the streets of Claremont. With these programs, residents have been able to diversify their local mobility options and reduce their reliance on cars. The E-Bike Rebate Program is now fully expended, but there are still a limited number of GoSGV e-bike subsidies available. Residents can find more information about the GoSGV e-bike Program at www.ci.claremont.ca.us/e-bike.

IC2 Program

The City recently committed \$400,000 in small business grants to assist Claremont small businesses impacted by the pandemic. In addition to the grant, the City and Innovate Claremont launched the on-going Innovate Claremont Internship Program (IC2), that creates a partnership between Claremont businesses and organizations, and the highly talented students at the Claremont Colleges. The IC2 Program is available to businesses regardless of if they received a grant or not. Innovate Claremont will assist businesses in creating a job description and finding an intern that fits their organization's needs. For more information, businesses may contact Alex Cousins at (909) 399-5323 or acousins@ci.claremont.ca.us.

Affordable Housing at the Old School House Apartments

As required by the City's Inclusionary Housing Ordinance, the Old School House Apartments have allocated 16 rental units for moderate-income households at affordable rates. These units have been occupied by income eligible households since April 2023. When these units become available again, Old School House Apartments will contact those on the wait list to complete an application. To find out more about the Inclusionary Housing Program, residents may contact Alex Cousins at 909-399-5323 or acousins@ci.claremont.ca.us.



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SPRING SPECIAL EVENTS

Spring Celebration Saturday, March 30, 2024

The City of Claremont is proud to announce this year's Spring Celebration. The Spring Celebration will be held at Memorial Park on Saturday, March 30, 2024 from 9am-11am.

The egg hunt will begin promptly at 10:45am for children ages 3-12 with an opportunity to find the golden egg. Free goodie bags will be available for children ages 2 and younger. Activities are planned before the egg hunt, including a live petting zoo, face painting, a magic show, interactive booths, and photo opportunities with Mr. and Mrs. Bunny.

In addition to the traditional egg hunt, the City of Claremont will be hosting a Special Needs Egg Hunt. The Special Needs Egg Hunt will be an adaptive and sensory-friendly egg hunt where parents are welcome to assist their children with special needs.



The Kiwanis Club of Claremont will also be hosting a pancake breakfast, \$7 per person, from 8-11am. Thank you to this year's Spring Celebration Sponsors; Claremont Village Marketing Group, Solid Rock Church, Claremont Graduate University, Bert and Rocky's, and The Children's Foundation of America. The City of Claremont and event sponsors look forward to seeing you there!

Memorial Day Ceremony

The City of Claremont, in partnership with American Legion Keith Powell Post 78 and the Friends of Oak Park Cemetery, will present a Memorial Day ceremony at the Oak Park Cemetery on Monday, May 27, 2024 at 11am.

For more information or to participate, please email SpecialEvents@ci.claremont.ca.us.



City Council Reaffirms Priorities For 2024-26

On Saturday, January 27, 2024, the City Council held a Priorities Workshop to receive input from the community and provide direction to staff on work plan items for the next two years. The workshop was held prior to the development of the next budget to ensure funding is identified for new and expanded programs and projects.

At past Priorities Workshops, the City Council has directed staff to develop new projects, policies, and programs based on the feedback received through focus group meetings and a community survey. The City's E-Bike Program, DEI Training Program, Hotel-Motel Ordinance, Tenant Assistance Program, Small Business Assistance Grants, and the Accessory Dwelling Unit Grants and Design Programs were all developed through the Priorities Process. These programs have successfully addressed needs identified by the community and have expanded services for residents and businesses.

During the 2024 Priorities Workshop, the City Council reaffirmed the seven existing priorities, and directed staff to present additional information at a future City Council meeting regarding various programs, projects, and services. Staff will bring back information on tree policies and urban forest preservation, rental assistance and rental registries, first time home buyer assistance programs, and Blaisdell Ranch Preserve management options.

City staff will be preparing the 2024-26 Budget over the next few months, taking into consideration the City Council's priorities, goals, and objectives. Public meetings will take place in May and June to present the budget to the community.

For more information on the City Council Priorities or the City budget process, please visit the City website at www.ci.claremont.ca.us.

Hotel/Motel Ordinance Update

Last year, the City Council adopted a Hotel/Motel Ordinance to address escalating crime around the City's hotels and motels. On January 23, 2024, staff presented the first Annual Hotel/Motel Ordinance Update Report to the City Council. The report included the 2023 Fourth Quarter Report from the City Interdepartmental Team (CIT). Since the adoption of the ordinance, the City has seen a decrease in criminal and nuisance activity near the properties and an increase in coordination between the City, the hotel operators, and the community. The Claremont Police Department has conducted several targeted enforcement operations in partnership with other law enforcement agencies resulting in multiple arrests. The CIT will publish its next Quarterly Report in April, which will report on activity occurring between January and March 2024. All reports may be found on the City website at www.ci.claremont.ca.us/hotel-motel-ordinance.

Claremont Temporary Housing Stabilization & Relocation Program

On April 25, 2023 the City Council voted to allocate \$1 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding to fund the Claremont Temporary Housing Stabilization and Relocation Program. Since the program's launch, the City has provided rental assistance to over 125 households and over \$300,000 has been allocated for the first cycle alone. Applications for the second program cycle will open in May for the period of July 2024 to June 2025. The Program Guidelines and application materials are available at www.ci.claremont.ca.us/tenant-assistance. For more information, please contact Assistant to the City Manager Katie Wand at KWand@ci.claremont.ca.us or (909) 399-5454.

Renaming of the Human Services Department

The Human Services Department has been renamed the Recreation and Human Services Department. The name change was approved at the February 13, 2024 City Council meeting. The addition of the word "Recreation" to the department name emphasizes the department's oversight of the City's recreation programs, parks, and services. The new name also distinguishes it from Human Resources, a common mistake. The Recreation and Human Services Department oversees parks, recreation classes, special events, senior and youth programs and services, CBO funding, facility rentals, park ranger program, and manages the Claremont Hills Wilderness Park.



Spring Recreation Brochure

The Recreation and Human Services Department has released the Winter/Spring 2024 Recreation Brochure. This brochure covers information on recreation classes, youth and senior programming, special events, and more! The brochure is available in a virtual format, providing an interactive experience. To access the brochure, visit www.claremontrec.com.



New Playground For Lewis Park

The City is in the process of selecting new playground equipment for Lewis Park (881 Sycamore Dr.) The Parks, Hillside, and Utilities Committee with input from residents is recommending the Birchwood Playground Design. The design has a whimsical feel to it, with colors similar to the current structure. The play structure features two slides, several climbing elements, and several panel play elements. Also included are two game tables, an inclusive spinner, and a dinosaur sculpture. The approximate cost of the Birchwood Playground set is \$140,000. The design will go to the Community and Human Services Commission for approval on March 6, 2024. Final approval will go to the City Council on March 12, 2024. Installation of the new playground should be completed by the beginning of summer 2024.

Tree Policies and Guidelines Manual Update

In July, the City contracted with Dudek to review the City's Tree Policies and Guidelines Manual. The goal of the review is to recommend changes that meet industry standards while considering community character; fiscal responsibility; safety; accessibility; and compliance with Federal, State, and local regulations. Additionally, Dudek will make recommendations on reforestation goals, appropriate planting, and infrastructure-versus-tree conflicts.

To encourage public engagement, three community input meetings were held in the fall. Feedback received during the community meetings was used to guide the revisions to the Manual.

The proposed revisions to the Manual are now available for public review on the City's website. The public review period will close in late-March. Staff anticipates bringing the proposed revisions through the approval process beginning in April. For more information, please visit www.ci.claremont.ca.us/trees.

Gasoline-Powered Leaf Blowers Prohibited

The use of gasoline-powered leaf blowers is prohibited in Claremont. Electric or battery-powered leaf blowers may be operated between the hours of 8 am and 6 pm seven days a week. Gasoline-powered vacuums are permitted. No leaves or other debris shall be blown into the street, sidewalk, or beyond the property line. Noise associated with the maintenance of property such as mowing, edging, and trimming can take place between the hours of 7 am and 8 pm Monday through Saturday and between 9 am and 8 pm on Sundays. For more information or to report illegal use, please contact the Community Improvement Division at (909) 399-5499.



Safety Tips To Prevent Internet Crimes Against Children

Over the last few months, the Claremont Police Department has seen a rise in internet related crimes. The following two examples highlight the potential dangers related to social media use and emphasize the importance of parent and guardian supervision. Parent and guardians need to not only communicate with their children about social media safety, but also actively monitor their children's social media accounts.

In October, several underage victims met suspects through dating apps. The underage victims were coerced into agreeing to be picked up in Claremont during the day. The victims were driven to several different locations and ultimately sexually assaulted. Two of the suspects were later identified and taken into custody.

In January, a victim met a suspect on social media and was coerced into being picked up from their Claremont home in the middle of the night. Based on the victim's social media chat, the family believed the unknown suspect was going to take the victim out of state. Claremont Police Department detectives were able to determine that the victim had been kidnapped and were able to identify the suspect vehicle, which was later located in Arizona with the help of the Arizona Department of Public Safety. The suspect was taken into custody and the victim was safely returned home.

Unfortunately, situations like these illustrate how easily a child can fall victim to online predators. The Claremont Police Department would like to offer some internet safety tips to help keep you and your loved ones safe:

- Educate yourself and your children about social media safety.
- Set ground rules for social media use.
- Constantly monitor your children's online activity.
- Discuss the importance of keeping information private, such as your name, date of birth, where you live, and where you go to school.
- Avoid "oversharing" your child's life on social media.
- Never approve friend requests or add people you don't know in real life.
- Beware of "catfishing" or fake profiles.
- Turn off locations when tagging posts or posting photos.
- Advise kids/teens to never arrange to meet someone they met online.

The Claremont Police Department hopes that you find these internet safety tips helpful. If you would like additional information on internet safety, please call the Claremont Police Department's Specialized Services Bureau at (909) 399-5409.



New CHWP Parking System Free Resident Parking Available

The Recreation & Human Services Department is excited to announce a new parking permit system for the Claremont Hills Wilderness Park designed to improve the visitor experience and eliminate the need for paper and sticker permits. The system will be installed this spring. Claremont residents will simply scan their driver's license with a Claremont address at the Thompson Creek Trail parking lot on the corner of Mills Avenue and Mt. Baldy Road to receive six hours of free parking!

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How does the system work?

A: Residents will scan their license at the parking meter in the Thompson Creek Trail (TCT) parking lot, then enter their license plate number. Park Rangers will be able to view which plates have valid permits. *Residents receive free parking in the south lot/TCT parking lot only.*

Q: Will I need to apply online or in-person to obtain free resident parking?

A: No – simply follow the onscreen prompts, scan your driver's license, and enter your license plate number. It's as easy as that!

Q: What are the benefits of the new system?

A: With this change, residents are no longer limited to two permits per household. Purchase a new car or have a rental? No problem – your ID is all you need to park. Plus, residents no longer need to apply in-person to receive this benefit.

Q: What if my driver's license has my old non-Claremont address?

A: California Vehicle Code section 14600(a) requires that you notify the DMV within 10 days of moving to a new address. Addresses can be updated through the DMV's website or at a DMV office. Once your address has been updated, you can request a new license be mailed to you through the DMV.

Q: What if I prefer to purchase an Annual Parking Permit for use in the northern lot?

A: Those who wish to purchase an annual permit will be able to do so online through the permit portal on our website using their license plate number. Annual Permits are \$170 and will be valid for 365 days from the date of purchase.

For additional information, please visit our website at www.ci.claremont.ca.us/CHWP or contact the Recreation & Human Services Department at (909) 399-5490 or email parks@ci.claremont.ca.us

Bonita and Yale Avenue Project La Popular, Lofts, and Coffee Shop

The redevelopment of the former Rhino Records property at the corner of Bonita and Yale Avenues continues in the spring. The La Popular CDMX restaurant, which occupies the former Rhino Records opened in November 2023. Customers can now enjoy the renovated interior of the building, which includes the exposed original wooden trusses of the historic bow truss building and the new outdoor patio. Construction is currently underway for five new loft units located over the rear portion of the building, formerly occupied by Video Paradiso. Two stories are being added over the rear portion of the building to create space for the five new dwelling units. The ground floor tenant space will be occupied by a new coffee shop and a second outdoor patio area on the north side of the building will be constructed for the new coffee shop.

Construction Begins on Descanso Walk Project

Construction activities are set to begin at the former Marie Callendar's property at the intersection of Towne Avenue and Foothill Boulevard. In Fall 2023, the Claremont City Council approved the Olson Company's 56-unit townhome development that includes 12 live/work units fronting Foothill Boulevard. The Olson Company anticipates an 18-24 month construction process with the project completed in late 2025 or early 2026. The Olson Company is one of the leading residential urban infill developers in Southern California and has completed two projects in Claremont (Village Walk and Ivy Walk).

Preservation Ordinance

On February 14, 2024, the Architectural Commission conducted a public hearing to consider a Preservation Ordinance for the designation and preservation of historic properties and cultural resources. The proposed ordinance would apply to all properties, structures, landscapes, and sites that are listed on the local, state, or National register for historic or cultural resources or those that qualify to be designated/listed as cultural resources. The ordinance also codifies procedures for designating properties to the City's local historic register. The Ordinance will now go to the Planning Commission for review before a recommendation is made to the City Council. For questions, please contact Principal Planner Christopher Veirs at (909) 399-5470 or by email at cveirs@ci.claremont.ca.us.



City of Claremont Helpful City Phone Numbers

City Hall/General Info	(909) 399-5460
24-Hour Comment Line	(909) 399-5389
City Manager	(909) 399-5441
City Clerk	(909) 399-5460
City Council	(909) 399-5444
Code Enforcement	(909) 399-5499
Building	(909) 399-5471
Engineering	(909) 399-5465
Planning	(909) 399-5470
Trees, Trash, & Recycling	(909) 399-5431
Hughes Center	(909) 399-5490
Joslyn Center	(909) 399-5488
Blaisdell Center	(909) 399-5367
YAC	(909) 399-5363
TAC	(909) 399-5378
Police Department	(909) 399-5411
Bulk Item Pick Up	(909) 399-5431
E-Waste Curbside Pick Up	(909) 399-5431
Utility Billing	(909) 399-5453

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After Hours Non-Emergencies, please call the Police Department at (909) 399-5411.



Find out what's happening in Claremont, follow the City on social media! The City posts events, news, and public notices on social media.