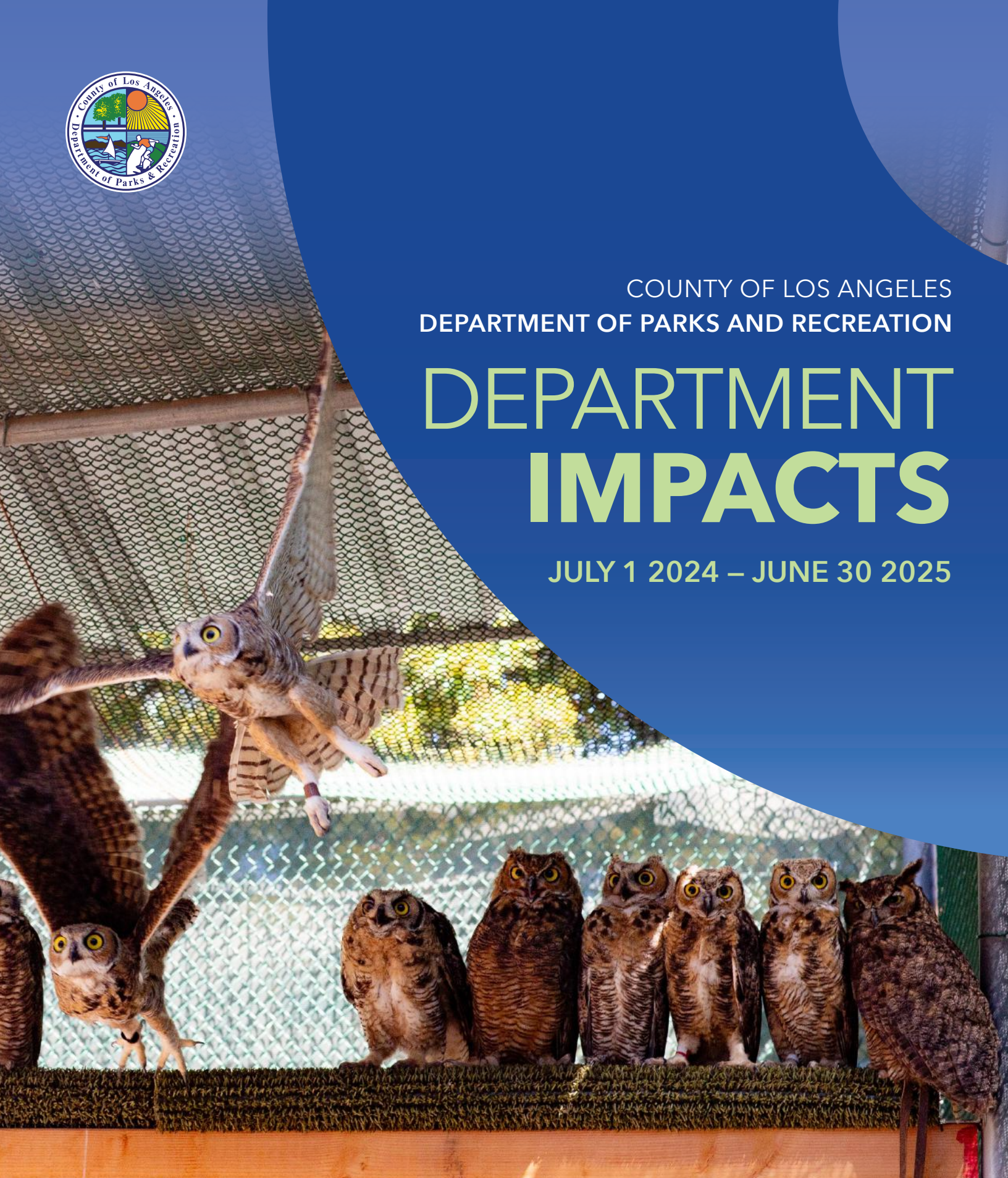




COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

DEPARTMENT IMPACTS

JULY 1 2024 – JUNE 30 2025



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF
**Parks &
Recreation**

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Director Message

LA County
Parks: Talent
and Heart



NORMA E. GARCÍA-GONZÁLEZ
DIRECTOR, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DIRECTOR, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES REGIONAL
PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

I am pleased to share the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation Impacts for 2024-25.

The Impacts report highlights the diverse role LA County Parks plays in the lives of LA County residents. From year-round recreation, to congregate meals and afterschool snacks, to cultural and seasonal celebrations, to stewards of natural resources, to essential support during emergency response, LA County Parks is here to serve you.

In January 2024, Los Angeles County experienced the unprecedented devastation of the Palisades Fire in the City of Los Angeles and some unincorporated areas, and the Eaton Fire in the unincorporated community of Altadena. The Palisades Fire destroyed 23,448 acres, 6,800 structures, including homes, and caused 12 deaths in this tight-knit community. The Eaton Fire burned through 14,021 acres, all six LA County parks in the community, 9,400 structures, homes and the legacy of Altadena's historic African American communities, while claiming 19 lives.

Within three days of the Eaton Fire, LA County Parks responded by opening Care Camp to serve the children and families who had lost everything. In partnership with many County departments and over 80

community organizations, Care Camp served 2,732 displaced children providing a place for hope, healing, and connection. What we learned from the devastation of the fires is that community is at the heart of recovery. I am so proud of the work of LA County Parks, serving our unincorporated communities in the fullest way possible.

This past year, LA County Parks achieved several milestones thanks to the talent, heart and dedication of our staff.

- Care Camp was recognized as a new best practice for caring for children after catastrophic events by the National Recreation and Parks Association and received the 2025 Innovation in Health and Wellbeing Award.
- Reopening of Loma Alta Park in May, the first Altadena park to reopen. With the generosity of 50 community partners and more than 500 volunteers to bring back Loma Alta as a “super park” with many enhanced services.
- This year we celebrated the third annual Girls Sports Day with a keynote by track and field Olympic Gold Medalist Valarie Brisco-Hooks and world-renowned Olympic track coach Bobby Kersee to encourage more girls to participate in sports.
- We opened three new Our SPOT Teen Centers (Obregon Park, Earvin “Magic” Johnson and Jackie Robinson Parks). A total of 16 Our SPOT Teen Centers now provide LA County teens a free safe place to connect, grow and have fun.
- The community celebrated the opening of the new state of the art Hilda L. Solis Aquatic Center, the first in the east San Gabriel Valley. The grand opening celebration featured the USA Artistic Swimming Team.

I am so proud of the connections and contributions we are making across LA County. Thank you for sharing in our journey. I will see you at your local LA County park!

Sincerely,

NORMA E. GARCÍA-GONZÁLEZ
DIRECTOR, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DIRECTOR, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

“ What we learned from the devastation of the fires is that community is at the heart of recovery. I am so proud of the work of LA County Parks to serve our unincorporated communities in the fullest way possible.



After the Fires: Challenges, and Resilience

In January 2025, Los Angeles County experienced extreme fire weather conditions resulting in two of the most destructive wildfires in California's history. The Palisades Fire, in the City of Los Angeles and in some unincorporated areas, and the Eaton Fire, in the unincorporated community of Altadena, collectively destroyed over 15,000 homes and business, and resulted directly in the loss of 31 lives.

In addition to the devastation to residences and businesses, the windstorm and fires severely impacted LA County Parks, which serves as the department of parks and recreation for unincorporated communities. Six parks,

including Eaton Canyon Nature Center and Natural Area and Altadena Golf Course, were damaged or destroyed.

Care Camp – Hope and Healing

The Eaton Fire left schools and homes destroyed, families displaced and traumatized. Within 72 hours of the fire, LA County Parks launched Care Camp across five sites, serving 2,732 displaced children, representing more than one-quarter of the 10,000 students affected in the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD).

With more than 300 staff deployed (from early morning



Structures Lost or Damaged by the Eaton and Hughes Fires

	STRUCTURE	COMPLETE LOSS	DAMAGED
EATON CANYON NATURE CENTER	ROBERT M MCCURDY NATURE CENTER	●	
	SHADE STRUCTURE	●	
	OUTDOOR CLASSROOM	●	
	TRASH ENCLOSURE – WILDLIFE PROOF	●	
FARNSWORTH PARK	DAVIES BUILDING		●
	ARBOR TRELLIS	●	
	COMFORT STATION 1		●
	COMFORT STATION 2	●	
	REGIONAL OFFICE BUILDING	●	
	HORSESHOE ARBORS	●	
	UTILITY BUILDING	●	
	AMPHITHEATER SEATING		●
	PLAYGROUND		●
	GROUP PICNIC SHELTER	●	
ALTADENA GOLF COURSE	CLUBHOUSE	●	
	CART STORAGE BUILDING	●	
	SERVICE BUILDING	●	
	GOLF DRIVING RANGE NETTING/POLES	●	●
CHARLES WHITE PARK	COMFORT STATION	●	
	PLAYGROUND	●	
LOMA ALTA PARK	STORAGE BUILDING	●	
	GARDEN BUILDING	●	
	COMMUNITY POOL - SHELL		●
	PLAYGROUND 1	●	
CASTAIC LAKE	PLAYGROUND 2	●	
	COMFRONT STATION A	●	
	MECHANICAL BUILDING	●	
	TRAFFIC HUT		●
TOTALS		22	7

* List is preliminary as of 1/29 and does not include damages to minor amenities like fencing, benches, trees, etc.

to sunset) and a 1:5 staff-to-child ratio, LA County Parks' free camp became a national model for trauma-informed disaster response for children.

Care Camp gave caregivers time to piece together shattered lives, while their children – aged 5-17 – could retreat to a safe place for healing and wellness through art, culture, learning, recreation, field trips and special events. The camps were filled with the joyful noise of more than 300 partner-led activities in arts, wellness, and recreation from 8 am to 7 pm five days per week.

CARE CAMP MEALS AND SNACKS SERVED TO YOUTH AND TEENS		
	BREAKFAST	10,120
	SNACK	10,120
	LUNCH	13,444
	DINNER	1,950

SPECIAL EVENTS

WEEKEND EVENTS

Friday Concert Night for families and youth featuring a performance by Las Cafeteras, with food provided by World Central Kitchen and Starbucks.

Saturday Movie Night for youth, offered to provide respite to parents while their children enjoy the event.

FIELD TRIPS

Over 1,200 kids attended Field Trips to:

- Dodger Stadium
- Natural History Museum
- Los Angeles County Museum of Art
- SoFi Stadium

It took a village to make Care Camp a success: Sponsors, county departments, mutual aid from six Los Angeles cities and over 80 partner organizations mobilized to support the children and families of Altadena. Additionally, more than 100+ volunteers and mental health professionals provided direct support for children and caregivers. LA County Parks Foundation, California Community Foundation, Kaiser Permanente Foundation, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Live

Nation Hewitt Silva, Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation, LA Clippers Foundation, Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), and PUSD.

CARE CAMP SPONSORS



- LA County Parks Foundation
- California Community Foundation
- Kaiser Permanente Foundation
- Los Angeles Philharmonic
- Live Nation Hewitt Silva

Finally, a Care Camp staff debrief, supported by the Trauma Resource Institute, let camp counselors and staff reflect on this life-altering experience by reuniting hundreds of Care Camp staff from LA County Parks, county departments, cities and community groups to share and support one another.

Care Camp is a new best practice for caring for children after catastrophic events and highlights the changing role of park and recreation professionals to support communities through trauma informed care. LA County Parks was recognized for its leadership by the National Recreation and Parks Association and received the 2025 Innovation in Health and Wellbeing Award for Care Camp.

DONATION DRIVE AND BOUTIQUES

Over 21,000 brand-new donations were collected in a one-day drive and distributed through Children's Boutiques, providing families with high-quality (FREE) shopping experience. Families could browse and select from donated clothing, toys, books, school supplies, and other essentials.

Donated Goods:

- Toys
- School supplies
- Shoes and Clothing
- Books
- Essentials and Personal Hygiene products
- Shelf stable emergency food boxes, produce and groceries
- Backpacks
- Blankets
- Electronics for virtual learning

RELATED:

LA County Parks Wins 2025 National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Innovation Award for Groundbreaking Trauma Recovery Program



Path to Recovery



After the flames, LA County Parks' resilience was clear, quickly assessing damage and envisioning the rebuild. The burned Farnsworth Park and Altadena Golf Course were repurposed by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to support the Eaton Canyon recovery.

Loma Alta Park Reopening

At the request of the Altadena community and with the support of numerous partners, LA County Parks worked tirelessly to reopen Loma Alta Park as a 'super park,' enhanced with murals, and additional trees and services in just four months.

Loma Alta Park's transformation began with the generous support and contributions of more than 50 community partners and more than 500 countywide volunteers. Through public-private partnerships, LA County Parks was able to restore two playgrounds, upgrade two baseball fields, receive donations of trees, plants, gardening tools and much more.

Every weekend in April volunteers from across LA County helped plant more than 44 trees and 650 shrubs/ground-covers. Eleven local artists produced four original murals, and community volunteers helped paint sidewalks and walls with bright designs.

Cheered on by families and children eager to climb two new playgrounds and explore the upgraded facilities, Loma Alta Park's May 17 grand re-opening drew 1,500 guests to celebrate the first Altadena park to reopen after the Eaton Fire.

Partnering with Conservation Corps

After the Eaton Fire, LA County Parks completed several trail recovery steps with conservation corps partners. Initial efforts included detailed assessments of about 10 miles of fire-damaged trails in Altadena, documenting infrastructure damage, capturing photo and 360-degree imagery, and supporting recovery planning. These assessments formed a critical part of the damage inventories submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and served as the basis for a trail reconstruction cost estimate exceeding \$3 million.

The Conservation Corps of Long Beach (CCLB) performed a rapid response to address safety hazards by clearing downed trees and branches, removing loose fire debris, and helping to secure Farnsworth Park, Loma Alta Park, and Charles White Park. The Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC) planted trees and shrubs, and delivered loads of fresh mulch at Loma Alta Park and the Altadena Triangle Park.

To guide long-term recovery, LA County Parks established an interagency Trails Recovery Workgroup with partners including the U.S. Forest Service, LA County Fire Forestry Division, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy, and local youth conservation corps.

Preliminary trail stabilization is underway and administered by the LACC and California Conservation Corps (CCC). In June 2025, LA County Parks secured a \$350,000 Measure A RESTORE Partnership grant from Los Angeles County Regional Parks and Open Space District (RPOSD) to further support initial trail stabilization efforts by LACC and CCC to be completed by December 2025.

New Loma Alta features and services include:

- Two new playgrounds – Sponsored by Fire Aid
- Two new Los Angeles Dodgers Dreamfields
- AltaCHAT (new community gathering area)
- LA Clippers Court (refurbished gym)
- New Computer/Tech Room (Sponsored by LA Clippers/Pechanga Resort Casino)
- New Senior Center Satellite (the former one had burned)
- New Altadena Library Satellite
- New Tiny Tots and Mommy & Me (dozens of Altadena childcare facilities were lost in the blaze)
- Our SPOT Teen Center & new Youth@Work program

Forging Stronger Ties with Tribes

Long before the arrival of the Spanish missionaries and before California became a state, Indigenous peoples and culture flourished in what we now call LA County. To honor the rich traditions and contributions of Native peoples, LA County Parks presented **Indigenous Peoples' Day programs at all eight Nature Centers** in October 2024.

The planning of these programs was thoughtful and intentional. The LA County Parks nature center consulted local tribes to ensure its workshops and events were culturally relevant and accurate.

Visitors learned to make Yucca cordage, gourd rattles and other hands-on activities, while ethnobotany walks explored the tribal use and significance of local plants. The documentary film "Saging the World" (about the cultural appropriation of sage and how it is being commercialized) was shown.

Also in October, the 30th **Annual Hart of the West Pow Wow** drew thousands for a joyous gathering at William S. Hart Park in Newhall. The Pow Wow, one of the largest in LA County, celebrated tradition and community with tribal dancers, drummers, and food. The Pow Wow was sponsored by LA County Parks, the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians and Friends of Hart Park and Museum.

To recognize the history and culture of LA County parklands, LA County Parks unveiled **new signage at Vasquez Rocks Natural Area**. In a landmark collaboration with the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, the signage unveiling in November 2024 was the first comprehensive trail system at Vasquez Rocks Natural Area in the park's 60+ history. The new signage includes recognition of the sacred Village of Mapipinga, and increases the visibility and use of Indigenous language and history. The new sign system vastly improves trail safety with wayfinding features and includes translations for Spanish, Chinese and Korean accessed by scanning a QR code.

County's First Tribal Liaison

LA County Parks hired Jenée Robin Ornelas, the county's first-ever tribal liaison to bridge the gap between tribal nations and local government. Ornelas is an enrolled citizen of the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians. She is the granddaughter of the previous Fernandeño Tataviam tribal leader Captain Rudy Ortega Sr. (Chief Little Bear) and great-great granddaughter of Tribal Captain Antonio Maria Ortega, who spent his life protecting their ancestral lands in local courts in the 19th century.

Listening to the Community

The second annual community meetings held in September across 66 LA County Parks offered a space for connection, learning, and listening. The community was invited to attend any meeting so they can share their feedback, ideas and priorities, learn about programs, and meet park staff.

All meetings were family friendly and offered activities for children. Additionally, simultaneous language interpretation was offered at select meeting sites to support non-English-speakers and ensure inclusive participation.

Park staff collected community feedback via a survey distributed at the meeting and available online for those who could not attend. The public completed 1,400 surveys.



Sustainability in Action

LA County Parks is leading groundbreaking conservation efforts that include preserving natural areas and wildlife, and converting concrete waterways into vibrant green spaces. Using the 2022 Park Needs Assessment Plus (PNA+) as its North Star, LA County Parks is advancing sustainability through projects that protect animals and habitat, expand tree canopy and cooling shade, restores waterways and improves trails.

LA County Parks is leading 17 community-based partners representing housing, climate health and environment to advance park equity and climate resilience. This PNA+ coalition is working on policy and projects for the county's most vulnerable communities.

Wildlife and Habitat Stewardship

Los Angeles County San Dimas Raptor Rescue

Raptors are essential to healthy ecosystems—they regulate prey populations, support biodiversity, and are indicators of environmental change. By rescuing, rehabilitating and releasing these majestic birds back into the wild, the LA County San Dimas Raptor Rescue saves individual birds and helps preserve the ecological integrity of the Los Angeles County region. Every bird of prey returned to the wild is a step toward a more balanced natural environment.

LA County Parks celebrated the July 2024 opening of this raptor rescue - only the second rescue center of its kind in the county. In its first year of operation, the Raptor Rescue successfully completed over 500 rescues, the majority of them baby birds. Rescued species include Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, American Kestrel, Great Horned Owl, Barn Owl, Screech Owl, Prairie Falcon, Turkey Vulture and many other birds.

Volunteers are the heart of Raptor Rescue and its success could not take flight without the incredible dedication of 20+ volunteers who gave over 1,000 hours: cleaning cages, preparing food, supporting rescues and recoveries, and assisting during critical care.



Climate Resiliency, Cooling our Parks & Communities

Forest Management: LA County Parks played a key role in developing Los Angeles County's first Community Forest Management Plan, adopted in 2024 by the Board of Supervisors. The Department is addressing shade equity by increasing tree canopy in communities that are burdened as heat islands. (Air temperatures under tree shade can be up to 25 degrees cooler than temperatures near blacktop.)

Equitable Tree Planting: Secured an \$8 million federal forestry grant, and some of this grant will fund the planting of 500 large trees bringing much-needed shade to nine parks in high-need neighborhoods.

Cooling Parks: With a \$3.9 million state award, LA County Parks will add shade structures, trees, drinking fountains, and bottle filling stations at three parks.

Kenneth Hahn Trail Improvement Project: Enhanced features at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area will better define the trail network with comprehensive way-finding signage to improve safety, protect habitat, and strengthen Kenneth Hahn as a key regional trailhead. Trail restoration and new hillside connections are underway, with completion expected by December 2025.

Training Staff for Sustainable Landscaping: As the climate warms, LA County Parks partnered with the Theodore Payne Foundation to train and certify 380 grounds maintenance staff in all aspects of native plant and drought-tolerant gardening.

Stormwater Capture: Across the region, LA County parks can help capture and clean stormwater instead of allowing it to run into the ocean. Parks can be transformed into multi-benefit spaces for both recreation and sustainable water management.

- **Adventure Park:** Beneath the new ballfields in this Whittier park, a stormwater capture system features a 6.4-million-gallon underground stormwater capture system to help improve water quality in Coyote Creek and the San Gabriel River. The park reopened in June, and above ground, it added new turf, fitness equipment, drought-tolerant landscaping, 33 trees, a bioswale, and educational signs explaining how the park helps protect the San Gabriel River watershed.
- **Monteith Park:** In another effort to capture stormwater, a new underground infiltration system, vaults, and monitoring wells will collect and treat runoff, while visitors enjoy upgraded walkways, lighting, landscaping, and site furniture.



Creating Urban Natureways

LA County Parks is connecting urban 'natureways' by transforming existing flood control channels and utility corridors, often in underserved communities, into vibrant, climate-resilient greenways. LA County Parks led two tours to learn with partners and explore ways the County can transition into this bold new direction.

First, LA County Parks led a fall delegation of 24 representatives from the Board of Supervisors, County, conservation and community-based organizations to visit Atlanta's Beltline, a national model for successful greenway projects. Inspired by the Beltline, the group reconvened to visit urban natureway opportunities in LA County from the San Fernando Valley, to South Los Angeles and the San Gabriel Valley.

By reimagining these corridors, LA County and its partners looks to improve a larger regional network of

natureways with a tree canopy, safe trails, and restored habitats that benefit communities and deliver real progress on equity, health, and environmental justice.

Compton Creek Greenway Loop: Inaugural project for LA County Parks to activate both sides of a flood control channel with trees and recreation located in Willowbrook, part of a larger regional trail network.

Emerald Necklace Mobility Hub at Santa Fe Dam: LA County Parks, with partners San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps and ActiveSGV, has completed the first of three planned mobility hubs along the Emerald Necklace, to create a 17-mile network of trails and parks. This new hub at Santa Fe Dam will offer low-cost e-bike rentals and access to outdoor recreation.

Lower LA River Gateway Greenway Park: A groundbreaking project to transform 1.3-miles of river into a vibrant 10-acre linear park with walking, biking, and



horseback riding trails, a renovated equestrian park, and a new river pavilion for visitors to connect with nature and river recreation.

Universal Design

In a year-long collaboration with Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities, the LA County Aging & Disabilities Department, and the LA County Parks Commission, the Department's Universal Design Task Force developed and adopted the Parks Universal Design Guidelines. This aspirational document, based on the Seven Principles of Universal Design, will be a guiding force to improve accessibility, adaptability, and equitable design far beyond basic compliance in park amenities across the County.



Honoring History and Heritage

Jackie Robinson Park Mural

The Light of Many Suns, a stunning 44-foot-long mosaic artwork by artist April Banks, glistens with the vibrant history of Sun Village, the first Black community in the Antelope Valley. Generations of black families barred by racist housing covenants in Los Angeles, moved to this Antelope Valley community to build homes and churches. Jackie Robinson Park centered the growing town, and the park was the nation's first named after baseball legend and civil rights icon Jackie Robinson, who attended the park's 1965 opening. Unveiled in November 2024, the mosaic highlights the contributions of Sun Village's Civic Women's Club who raised funds to purchase the land for the park.



Ruben Salazar Park Interpretative Program

A new interpretative project memorializes the Chicano Moratorium march which culminated at Ruben Salazar Park on August 29, 1970. Over 30,000 demonstrators marched to protest the Vietnam War and other inequities. The Park's namesake, Ruben Salazar, a renowned LA Times journalist, was killed while covering the march. The project honors this history with quotes from Moratorium participants, and a garden with plants native to Salazar's birthplace and childhood home. The project also includes enhancements to the existing Salazar plaque, Paul Botello mural, and an interpretive walking loop with the chronology of the march and Salazar's death. August 2025 marks the 55th anniversary of the Chicano Moratorium.

Celebrating Culture, Uniting Community

Los Angeles County is interwoven with a rich patchwork of cultures. LA County Parks highlights this diversity to present memorable cultural experiences that entertain, educate, and most importantly bring communities together.



This year's **cultural experiences** included Hispanic Heritage, Black History, Día de los Muertos, Lunar New Year, Pride at the Park, Juneteenth and more across 60 park sites, welcoming more than 28,000 attendees.

For June 2025 **Pride at the Park**, LA County Parks curated special events, creating safe and inclusive spaces for 4,650 LGBTQIA+ community members and their families. Natural Areas hosted special guided hikes and bike rides along the San Gabriel River bike trail. Music performances, Animal Ambassador presentations, arts and crafts displays, and speakers underscored the legacy and history of the LGBTQIA+ community. Expanded Pride events were staged at Victoria, Jesse Owens and Don Knabe Community Regional parks.

Juneteenth celebrations offered both introspection and joy with spoken word, live music and dance, food tastings from Black-owned vendors, sports tournaments, and educational workshops across many parks. Inspirational speakers uplifted visitors about the significance of the end of slavery, and how Juneteenth resonates today to empower the next generation.

LA County Parks also hosted seasonal **community events** (Trick or Treat Village, Harvest Festival, Holiday in the Park, and Spring Jubilee) at 61 sites celebrated by more than 59,000 visitors who enjoyed holiday themes.

Together, these cultural experiences and seasonal community celebrations drew 87,153 total visitors.

LA County Parks also hosted memorable special cultural events such as free **Opera in the Park**, a September 2024 partnership with the LA Opera at El Cariso Park in Sylmar. The beautiful, but tragic, tale of Madame Butterfly was simulcast live from the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion to hundreds of El Cariso Park guests who viewed the opera on a large digital screen with a powerful sound system. Food vendors, community booths and intermission speakers made this an evening to remember.

Serving Every Age – Programs for All

LA County Parks offers community services, sports and recreation for all ages – from toddlers to seniors. Some services, such as meals, are critical for those struggling to stretch limited food budgets. Plus a wide range of sports and recreation bring special events and affordable instruction for every interest and ability.

Summer Lunch and Snack Program

Many youths face food insecurity, and their access to healthy meals and snacks is limited, especially during the summer months when school is out.

Between July 2024 and June 2025, the LA County Parks Snack and Nutrition Program significantly expanded and delivered 293,358 healthy lunches and snacks for LA County youth from newborns to age 18. Funded by targeted programs, meals were served at 69 locations, including 49 LA County Parks and 20 LA County Library branches.

Overnight Family Camping

About 16,000 attendees flocked to the Overnight Family Camping events at five regional facilities in June, July, and August (Frank G. Bonelli Regional Park, Castaic Lake, Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, Santa Fe Dam, and the Whittier Narrows Recreation Area). These camp nights were unique for many urban families who experienced their first camping experience. Camping under the stars fostered quality family time, a chance to learn outdoor skills and a picturesque lakeside to make memories.

The family-friendly cost of \$15.00 for ages 13 and up included a park campsite and special activities such as night hikes, stargazing, and a June "Fishing with Families" that included a fishing pole loan program.

Parks After Dark (PAD)

For the year 2024-25, the always popular Parks After Dark (PAD) was staged at 34 parks and welcomed more than 400,000 attendees. Participants report that these popular events create a much-appreciated family atmosphere.

For Winter Wonderland more than 1,760 tons of snow were brought in and 51,000 toys distributed. The PAD events also hosted 272 concerts and 272 movies. There was a 40% increase in senior participation at PAD activities including exercise classes.



Senior Programs

In response to growing concerns about older adults—particularly those age 80 and older—LA County Parks expanded its community-based activities with \$1.2 million.

With the support of 60+ stakeholders, the expanded programs add social connection, emotional well-being, and regular physical activity for seniors. This fosters a sense of belonging and purpose, and can help reduce risks of dementia, Alzheimer's disease, and cognitive decline.

In FY 2024–2025, the Department delivered 190,000+ visits across 27 park sites through its Senior Programs, for adults ages 55 and older. LA County Parks served 70,000+ group meals, and hosted 1,800 seniors on cultural trips.

For the first time, LA County Parks hosted the Senior Wellness Village Resource Fair for more than 600 participants to connect with community organizations, speak to experts at workshops, join activities, and learn about wellness resources.

Every Body Plays After School

With busy family work schedules when there are no adults at home, this free afterschool program gives youth ages 7 to 17 a chance to relax, play, and learn at a park. This year, more than 96,000 youth attended special performances, explored reptile petting zoos or tackled a science project. Every Body Plays After-School program was available at 61 park sites during the school year, and over an 8-week summer program.

ESTEAM Summer Camps

Opening a universe of stimulating subjects for youth, the ESTEAM (Environment, Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) program enrolled more than 1,500 at 23 parks. The students joined hands-on projects on weekly themes, skill building, recreation and at least 9 field trips.

Teen Jobs

Giving teens a chance to explore jobs at LA County Parks – and be paid for their work – benefits both youth and the Department.

LA County Parks found high-impact job opportunities for 413 youth in 2024-25. The Youth@Work program led to paid, hands-on work experience for youth ages 14 to 24. It's frequently their first employment.

Youth@Work is also a recruiting tool for LA County Parks – developing a diverse staff to reflect the communities it serves.



This year's student workers include: 63 CalWORKs (California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids) recipients, 27 foster youth, 19 experiencing homelessness and 10 youth with disabilities.

Our SPOT (Social Places and Opportunities for Teens) Teen Centers

This LA County Parks free teen program continued to grow in 2024-25 with the launch of three new Our SPOT Teen Centers at Obregon, Earvin "Magic" Johnson, and Jackie Robinson parks.

Our SPOT Teen Centers serves teens ages 12 to 18, and reached more than 1,035 youth across 16 sites.

The popularity of this free afterschool program is centered on its 'hangout' model that lets teens chill and connect with friends, plus self-improvement opportunities for fitness, art and music classes; podcasting, DJ and poetry workshops; homework assistance; mentorship; and field trips and culture events such as Hollywood Bowl concerts (see Hollywood Bowl). Meals and snacks are served, essential for many teens from food insecure families.

Our SPOT is supported by LA County department partners including Department of Public Health, Department of Mental Health, the Department of Youth Development, the Department of Probation.



Teen Special Events

- The 2024 Girls Empowerment Conference at East Los Angeles College, drew 800+ attendees and was focused on elevating young women, helping them envision future careers and leadership pathways. More than 38 partner booths formed the Wellness Village, offering resources and hands-on activities for well-being and empowerment.
- The Girls Empowerment Dinner Series hosted 198+ participants in intimate conversations designed to inspire, affirm, and connect. The dinner included a Wellness Village.
- The 2024–2025 Teen Summit at Universal Studios gave 266 youth access to interactive workshops, entertainment, and exposure to meaningful career development resources. The Teen Summit also featured more than 16 partner booths at a Wellness Village.





Sports For All

Youth sports promote physical health, foster mental and emotional wellbeing, enhance academic performance and encourage teamwork and collaboration. LA County Parks is committed to making sports accessible to all. All youth sports leagues are offered at an affordable \$25 registration fee that includes uniforms. More than 30,000 youth participated in sports.

LA County Parks also prioritizes equity by expanding programs for underserved and underrepresented groups, including girls' sports, adaptive programming for individuals with disabilities, and multilingual outreach.

- **3rd Annual Girls Sports Day** The event at Belvedere Park drew girls ages 9 to 18 for an exciting day to explore four sports: basketball, softball, track and field, and soccer. A big double feature were two Olympic greats: three-time track and field gold medalist Valerie Brisco-Hooks, and world-renowned Olympic track coach Bobby Kersee, who trained Olympic medal winners including Brisco-Hooks, Allyson Felix, Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone, and Athing Mu.

As keynote speaker, Brisco-Hooks inspired attendees with her story and achievements. And Coach Kersee and his instructors led challenging track clinics for all 275 attendees.

Other clinics were staged by partners including Angel City FC, Los Angeles Junior Clippers Foundation, Ella Sports Foundation, Happy Habits Foundation (Coach Kersee's nonprofit), and the Latina Golfers Association.

A resource fair offered services and future opportunities in sports and wellness. And all girls received new shoes donated by the Los Angeles Dodgers and Live Nation – Hewitt Silva and giveaways from the Women and Girls Initiative.



Partnerships: Making Sports Dreams Possible

Many exciting sports opportunities are backed by the generosity of sports teams, organizations and nonprofit partners that support LA County Parks. LA County Parks is also fortunate to be located where many professional teams are based.

The Los Angeles Clippers – The Jr. Clippers youth basketball leagues were re-launched with over 3,200 participants countywide, ages 5 to 17. The Los Angeles Clippers supplied uniforms. (Also see Loma Alta Park and Clippers renovated basketball courts)

The Mamba & Mambacita Sports Foundation (MMSF) and BODYARMOR Sports Drink – In May 2025, LA County Parks celebrated the new Mambacita Basketball Court at Atlantic Park in East Los Angeles. Natalia Bryant, of MMSF, helped open the newly re-furnished purple and gold court, with butterfly artwork to pay tribute to her sister Gianna “Gigi” Bryant. Local students joined a basketball clinic, and 40 received new athletic shoes.

Los Angeles Dodgers – The Los Angeles Dodgers Dreamteam program expanded to La Puente offering baseball for youth ages 5 to 12 and softball for girls ages 9 to 12. All players received uniforms and equipment. (Also see Loma Alta Park and two Dodgers Dreamfields).

Los Angeles Rams Flag Football Support – Flag football was re-launched countywide with Los Angeles Rams sponsorship. More than 1,100 youth participated, with the Rams donating all uniforms, equipment and supplies. The season finale was “Rams Takeover Practices” at Castaic Sports Complex, Mayberry Park, Del Aire Park, Steinmetz Park, and Charter Oak Park, where participants received Rams giveaways.

Gasol Foundation Clinics – Former Los Angeles Lakers Pau and Marc Gasol, through their Gasol Foundation’s Galactic Sports initiative, offered free weekly sports clinics for youth ages 5 to 13. Clinics were at six parks for basketball, soccer, and track and field.

Beat the Streets – Free youth wrestling programs for children ages 6 to 17. More than 60 South Los Angeles youth joined regularly scheduled practices focused on skill development, fitness, and mentorship from dedicated coaches.

Special Olympics, SoCal Adaptive Sports, and the United States Tennis Association of Southern California – Three partners helped LA County Parks stage adaptive sports clinics countywide as part of the “Let’s Play Outside” initiative in July 2024.

Unmodern Industries – Partnered with LA County Parks for three Skate Jam events—at Crescenta Valley Park, Alondra Park, and Avenue Park. Each skateboarding event served over 100 youth and featured challenging bowls, dips, ramps, rails and stairs for all skill levels. Unmodern Industries staged a “Learn to Skate” area, with giveaways, live music, food, and awards.

The National Hockey League (NHL) – The NHL supported LA County Parks to launch a street hockey initiative. An LA Live kick-off event included a showcase to engage staff and provide training to prepare them to successfully introduce and teach street hockey at different sites.



Aquatics Dives Into New Center, Sports, and Safety

A reorganized Aquatics Agency, under a dedicated Deputy Director and Regional Operations Manager, strengthened the oversight and programs of LA County Parks lakes and pools.

- **Hilda L. Solis Aquatic Center Opens** - The June 2025 dedication of the new Aquatic Center in La Puente was a major investment in equitable recreation access to the historically underserved east San Gabriel Valley. The state-of-the-art facility features an Olympic sized pool, a practice pool, classroom, and public park space on the former Temple Academy site in West Puente Valley.
- The grand opening attended by more than 700 guests, featured dignitaries and a performance by the USA Artistic Swimming Team. Since opening, the new Aquatic center has achieved maximum program enrollment, offering LA County Park's year-round low- or no-cost swim lessons, water safety programs and vital sports resources to the area.
- **Val Verde Pool Reopens** - The community of Val Verde celebrated the June 2025 re-opening of its swimming pool after a year-long closure for critical repairs. The pool is an especially beloved and poignant landmark for Val Verde because of its long legacy as the 'Black Palm Springs' in the 1930s during widespread segregation that kept African Americans from enjoying beaches, parks, and pools. Val Verde was founded as a place for Black families to escape discrimination and redlining. This legacy – and its location in an area without pools – is why it was critical for LA County Parks to repair the pool as a key recreational resource for the community.

Water Sports

LA County continues to offer water recreation and water safety programs for all ages and abilities through its aquatics programming. Drowning is still the leading cause of death among children ages 1 to 4, and one of the three leading causes of unintentional injury death for ages 5 to 34. Seniors age 65+ are also vulnerable, with the second highest drowning death rate.

From January 2024 through December 2024, more than 98,000 adults participated in aquatics program from water exercise classes to free recreational swims at Every Body Swims pools. More than 7,000 adults enrolled in swim classes.

Youth made a bigger splash with more than 223,000 in diverse programs such as swim team, water polo, diving, and artistic/synchronized swimming. More than 58,000 youth enrolled in swim classes.

Aquatics also implemented WatchTower, a new web-based reporting software platform that allows lake and pool lifeguards to track daily activity, local park trends, rescues and incidents in real time. Improved reporting will better inform programming and operations.



USA Artistic Swimming

for All

Lifeguard Staffing and Training

To address regional lifeguard staffing shortages, Aquatics prioritized aggressive recruitment and training. To cultivate future lifeguards and promote youth fitness, the Lake Lifeguard Section launched the **Junior Lake Lifeguard Ready** program—a structured, endurance-building swim series modeled after the successful LA County Park’s Lifeguard Ready Training program for pools. The pilot season recorded 721 participant visits.

Youth Fishing Derbies

Fishing is a popular outdoor draw for many youths and families, and more than 6,000 youth tested their angler skills when LA County Parks hosted fishing days at three parks (La Mirada, Alondra Community Regional and Don Knabe parks). Youth took part in lake fishing learning stations, a rod and reel loan program, free bait, photo opportunities, t-shirts, awards, and food.

Taking fishing skills up a notch, youth fishing derbies at Don Knabe Park, Frank G. Bonelli Regional Park, Alondra Community Regional Park, and Santa Fe Dam drew 1,200 youth. These fishing contests are a collaborative effort with the state Department of Fish and Wildlife which stocks catfish in county lakes.



For the Community, Taught by the Community

From cooking to computer skills, dog obedience to knitting, Tai Chi to country line dancing; LA County Parks offers a special interest course for every age and interest.

More 8,500 youth and adults registered for the 900+ courses, taught by community instructors. Available across 31 parks, classes are affordable and offered six days a week to accommodate diverse interests and schedules.

This year 213 instructors taught courses, generating \$296,913 in total instructor revenue, reinforcing LA County Parks’ role in small business growth. The courses also generated nearly \$200,000 in departmental revenue which was reinvested back in the community.



Core and Community Program Partners

LA County Parks celebrated more than 250 community-based organizations to expand access to programming, including environmental education, youth sports, arts and cultural programming and community service.



As children lose contact with nature and the outdoors, obesity, depression and other negative impacts can follow, what author Richard Louv calls “nature deficit disorder.” “By helping children and adults discover the natural world, we help heal the divide between humans and nature—and create a generation of stewards who will protect it.” — Richard Louv

LA County Parks is guided by Louv’s writings. Whether it’s a nature walk, a cultural celebration, or a wildlife rescue, the department helps all people reconnect with nature—and that leads to healthier communities and a more sustainable future.

Natural Areas/ Nature Centers - Reconnecting Families to the Outdoors

For many Los Angeles residents nature seems faraway and their neighborhoods are a concrete world of pavement, buildings and few trees. To help connect more children and families to the outdoors, LA County Parks Nature Centers brought nature directly to thousands of visitors who took part in nature education programs and ecological stewardship.

Each center launched Nature in Your Neighborhood in May 2025 delivering multilingual, culturally tailored nature programming across park sites, serving 300+ families and focusing on mental health, access, and inclusion.



Golf Drives A Bright Future

The LA County Parks golf system tallied its highest round total in more than 15 years for its courses - even overcoming nearly six months of closure at Maggie Hathaway and Altadena golf courses (Hathaway has been closed for major course renovations and Altadena is a complete loss from the Eaton Fire). LA County Parks courses recorded 1.45 million golf rounds this year, a 7% increase from the prior year. This generated \$18+ million in total revenue for the LA County Parks.

- After a nationwide recruitment, LA County Parks appointed Vincent Johnson as its new Golf Director. His municipal golf management experience at the Portland Parks & Recreation golf system included effectively partnering with local media, organizing community outreach events, and forging connections with neighborhood stakeholders. As a lifelong golfer, who competed professionally in the PGA, Johnson is passionate about expanding golf access to youth and underserved communities, both key goals for the LA County Golf Division.
- As the Maggie Hathaway Golf Course Renewal Project progresses, the course has received a redesign by world-renowned golf architect Gil Hanse, a state-of-the-art irrigation system and a complete sod installation. LA County Parks, in collaboration with project partners FORE Youth Golf Foundation and American Golf, held community meetings to discuss the golf course renovation and clubhouse design.
- LA County Parks golf also closed out nearly \$3 million in capital improvement projects at its golf facilities that enhanced the customer experience, boosted revenue and helped grow the next generation of golfers.



Spotlight on Performance Venues

The Ford

The Ford's 2024 season, from July 14 to October 31, welcomed 37,000 attendees. Signature events included underplays by Shawn Mendes, a film series dedicated to Studio Ghibli, and a two-day residency curated by Los Angeles-based Jazz Is Dead. The average number of tickets sold per show was 845.

The Ford's community engagement included certification as a KultureCity Sensory Inclusive™ venue to accommodate young patrons and adults with sensory needs. This initiative will introduce additional signage, quiet areas, sensory bags, an online social story for patrons, as well as sensory activations for family programs like LA Soundscapes.

Continuing its outreach, in partnership with LA County Parks, The Ford brought 348 Seniors and Our SPOT teens to 15 concerts. Their experience included transportation from local parks plus free meals.

The Ford Access Program also distributed complimentary tickets for 67% of the 2024 season performances marking a 351% increase from the previous year. The program's focus prioritized vulnerable communities and was supported by partnerships with supervisorial districts and a dedicated team member leading daily efforts.

Hollywood Bowl

The iconic and immensely popular Hollywood Bowl, which is also a LA County public park, hosted 117 events, attended by more than 1.3 million patrons. The Bowl was also visited by over 300,000 tourists.

LA County Parks continued its collaboration with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Association to present the popular Hollywood Bowl Access program. A total of 1,488 youth from Our SPOT Teen Centers and older adults attended more than 40 concerts during the Hollywood Bowl Summer Concert Series. Concertgoers enjoyed live performances by major artists, exclusive access to private tours of the Hollywood Bowl and visits to the Hollywood Bowl Museum deepening their music and arts appreciation.

The Bowl also kicked off a new traffic and parking program resulting in a dramatic boost in Park & Ride and Shuttle users, increasing overall ridership to more than 30% of all event attendees – the highest total in the Hollywood Bowl's history.

World-Class Botanic Gardens Bloom With Visitors and Events

LA County Parks' Botanic Gardens are a tranquil green escape from the hustle of the city, improving quality of life, and educating all with their diverse beauty.

Botanic gardens serve as vital repositories for genetic diversity and conservation, aiding habitat restoration and ecosystem research. Globally, botanic gardens conserve approximately one third of all known plant species—including over 40% of threatened species and even some that are extinct in the wild.



Arboretum

Arboretum attendance last year was 536,764 with more than 17,000 Household Memberships enrolled.

In March 2025 the Los Angeles Arboretum Foundation and LA County Parks appointed Su Oh as Chief Executive Officer of the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden. Oh also became CEO of the Los Angeles Arboretum Foundation. She has more than 30 years of experience in arts, culture and the entertainment industry, including managerial positions at the Natural History Museums of Los Angeles County (NHMLAC) and The Recording Academy.

Signature Arboretum events included its Plumeria Festival, Arboretum Summer Nights Concert Series and an Old-Fashioned Holiday at the Queen Anne Cottage. After the Eaton Fire, the Arboretum also hosted a January LA County Parks Care Camp (See Care Camp). An Engelmann oaks preservation program saved 300 trees with corrective pruning after the January windstorm.

Descanso Gardens

Descanso Gardens welcomed more than 940,000 visitors and signed up 30,000 member households.

Descanso provided free admission to 57,799 guests including EBT cardholders, students, educators, military personnel, and the public on our monthly Free Tuesdays. More than 2,300 students and adults visited, many from Title I schools, along with an additional 1,677 visits from homeschool programs.

The last year was one of growth and resilience, completing new projects, serving as a Care Camp site after the tragic Eaton Fire (see Care Camp), followed by a rejuvenating spring when the community returned seeking a place of reflection and beauty.

Popular signature events included the October Carved event, winter Enchanted Forest of Light, and March through May spring blooms. Descanso Gardens also hosted a Care Camp for youth after the Eaton Fire.

South Coast Botanic Garden

The South Coast Botanic Garden's trails and free access program served nearly 13,000 guests. Its volunteers contributed 12,000 hours of service.

The 87 acres of lush garden countered the urban heat-island effect with a reduction in temperatures of up to 9 °F. The garden vegetation kept an estimated 12 million gallons of storm water from reaching the garbage landfill layer beneath the site. The new Pollination Garden and forthcoming Marilyn and John Long Children and Family Garden are restoring 4.5 acres of climate adaptive habitat and will be a living laboratory for sustainable garden practices.

South Coast hosted 76 unique nature/recreation experiences, including Dogtoberfest (celebrating dogs and the fall harvest), Bamboozled (an exhibit of colossal bamboo bird sculptures), Spiked (a celebration of agave), and SOAR (a tropical butterfly encounter).

Virginia Robinson Gardens

The Virginia Robinson Gardens drew more than 5,000 visitors.

The gardens completed the waterfall and enhancement project of Harry Robinson's fern collection in the Palm Forest, and it finished the first step of becoming a fully accredited museum by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM). This will recognize its educational mission and plans and policies.

Virginia Robinson Gardens hosted a special exhibit of internationally celebrated artist Max Hooper Schneider's series of bonsai sculptures as part of the Getty Museum's annual Pacific Standard Time initiative. Plant clippings, flowers, fruits and vegetables sourced from The Virginia Robinson Gardens were bronzed and made into sculptures.



LA County Parks Foundation (LACPF)



The Los Angeles County Parks Foundation (LACPF) is proud of its transformation and growth this fiscal year. The hiring of the Foundation's first Executive Director, Teresa Villegas, marked a significant milestone in establishing a deeper presence across LA County to further the organization's success.

The foundation received an outpouring of support from many donors to support LA County Parks recovery in Altadena.

Post-fire recovery donors include:

- **FireAid and the Annenberg Foundation**
- **California Community Foundation**
- **Kaiser Health Foundation**
- **Skechers Foundation**
- **Pasadena Community Foundation**
- **Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation**
- **LA Clippers Foundation**
- **Pechanga Resort and Casino**
- **Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD)**
- **LA Philharmonic**
- **Live Nation – Hewitt Silva**
- **No Kid Hungry**

LACPF partners with LA County Parks to support key projects

- **Clippers Community Courts:** Throughout 2024, the Foundation worked closely with contractors for the refurbishment of all outdoor and indoor basketball courts thanks to the substantial financial generosity of the Los Angeles Clippers Foundation. The Clippers commitment to community enrichment continues to resonate across LA and by fall 2025, all of these court upgrades will be completed.
- **Youth Softball:** The Roslind & Arthur Gilbert Foundation renewed an \$80,000 commitment to the Antelope Valley Youth Softball program. This aids about 450 families with scholarships, uniforms and trophies.
- **NHL/Street Hockey:** In a groundbreaking partnership, the NHL awarded a \$20,000 donation to the LA County Parks Foundation.
- **ESPN/Disney Tiny Tots Sports:** A first-ever ESPN/Disney grant gave \$10,000 to LACPF as an investment in very young LA County youth. This award will help introduce preschoolers to sports at Ruben Salazar Park by building eye-hand coordination, teamwork, and confidence. This can benefit future sports skills for softball, soccer, basketball and more, while also fostering long-term physical activity and motor development skills.





JR. CLIPPERS

HOME	00:00	GUEST
0	PERIOD	0
BONUS	POSS	POSS
0	1	0
FOULS	PLAYER	FOULS
0	GAME	0
WON		WON

2023-2024
NORTH AGENCY
CHEER
CHALLENGE
FIRST PLACE
Minis Division

CALIFORNIA STATE GAMES
2010 STATE CHAMPION
11 & UNDER
GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

CALIFORNIA STATE GAMES
2013 STATE CHAMPION
13 & Under Girls Basketball



Los Angeles County Regional Parks and Open Space District (RPOSD)

FY 2024–2025 was a breakthrough year for the Los Angeles County Regional Parks and Open Space District (RPOSD). RPOSD did not just fund parks—it helped communities recover from disaster, launched careers in conservation, connected thousands to nature, and modernized grantmaking in LA County. RPOSD is proud to build a future where every resident has access to safe, vibrant, and resilient public spaces.

Investing in Parks, Trails, and Open Space

- More than \$50 million in new, non-competitive Measure A grants were awarded—fueling transformative park and open space projects across Los Angeles County. From the purchase of new shade structures and playgrounds to the planning of large parks like the South LA Wetlands, and the acquisition of major parks in High and Very High Need communities—these awards mark important milestones in the RPOSD mission to improve access for all.
- More than 600 acres of new parkland was acquired through \$17 million in competitive Measure A funding, securing vital open space for future generations. Half the funds were awarded to communities with high and very high park need.
- **70 Measure A**-funded park projects were completed, delivering visible improvements in communities countywide, including:
 - **Hilda L. Solis Aquatic Center** (Unincorporated West La Puente): The east San Gabriel Valley's only regional aquatic center, opened with \$14 million in Prop A funding.
 - **Zela Davis Park Renovation (Hawthorne):** New playground, shaded picnic area, and sustainable features completed with \$670,000 in Measure A competitive funding.

- **Westlake Village Pickleball Courts (Westlake Village):** Four new courts constructed by retrofitting a parking lot, funded in part with \$271,798 in Measure A funds.
- **Simms Park** – The Oak Center (Bellflower): A multi-generational community hub supported by \$705,625 in Measure A planning/design funds and \$199,770 in technical assistance construction support.
- **Rawley Duntley Park Renovation (Lancaster):** Inclusive playground, basketball court upgrades, and ADA improvements completed with \$912,000 in Measure A funds.

Rebuilding After Disaster

- In the wake of the January 2025 wildfires, RPOSD launched its first-ever disaster recovery program: RESTORE (Recovery and Emergency Support for Trails, Open Space, and Recreation).
- \$4.25 million in RESTORE funding was allocated to help devastated communities recover, rebuild, and reimagine public parks and natural areas.

Connecting Communities to Nature

- More than 22,000 residents—mostly children and families—were connected to nature through the Recreation Access Program, with trips to the Angeles National Forest, LA Zoo, County beaches, local parks, and cultural destinations.

- Over 150 youth and veterans trained in conservation and parks careers, earning hands-on experience, certifications, and access to life-changing apprenticeship opportunities.

Supporting Park Agencies in High and Very High Need Areas

- Through RPOSD's Technical Assistance Program, \$15 million invested to date, helping agencies in High and Very High Need areas:
 - Unlock stalled projects.
 - Secure additional funding from external sources.
 - Acquire new parkland and plan community-driven improvements

Strengthening Systems & Streamlining Grantmaking

- Launched a streamlined grantmaking process, making it easier for agencies to plan, submit, and receive Measure A funding.
- Initiated a full-scale redevelopment of the Grants Management System, for a faster, more accessible, and more transparent grant experience—from application to reimbursement.





COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF
**Parks &
Recreation**