

Staff Report: City Council Committees' Activities
TO: City Council
SUBJECT: City Council Committees' Activities

INTRODUCTION

A brief update is provided for City Council review on the activities of the following standing committees: Capital Improvement Program, and Public Safety.

STATEMENT OF FACT

On April 13, 2026, the Capital Improvement Program Committee met and discussed:

Weingart Sr. Center Improvements

A Notice to Proceed was issued on March 30. The project is expected to be completed by December 2026, with demolition and abatement work beginning soon.

Palms Community Center Improvements

On March 24, the City Council awarded the construction contract to The Nazerian Group, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. The contract is being executed and a pre-construction meeting will be scheduled once finalized.

Nixon Yard Roofing Improvements

Roofing Standards installed a roof overlay at the Nixon Yard purchasing building. Construction is now complete.

Electrical, HVAC, and Roof Project

At The Centre, HVAC installation is complete and the system is being balanced. At City Hall, roof completion is pending metal coping installation; HVAC equipment has been delivered, and temporary units remain in place while piping and electrical work continue. Interior lighting is substantially complete, with ceiling tile replacement ongoing. At Biscailuz Park, switchgear replacement and roof work are expected to finish this week. At Arbor Yard, Southland has removed HVAC units from the Admin Building and installed temporary systems, with similar work planned for the Print Shop next week.

City Hall and Centre Generator Modernization

The project plans have been approved by the city's building official consultant for final building and safety approval. Staff are finalizing the bid package for issuance soon.

Corner Lot

The construction design documents have been submitted to Building for the first plan check. The CEQA public-review concluded on Feb. 13, 2026, with one comment received from LA County Sanitation District confirming compliance with sanitation guidelines. Final design is expected to be completed by May 2026.

Council Chambers

The architect, BOA, is continuing design work for improvements, including a new dais and security upgrades such as a dedicated Council entrance from the Executive Board Room. The plans will be completed and held until funding is secured.

Cherry Cove Playground

The Notice to Proceed with construction is anticipated on Monday April 20, 2026, with completion expected in approximately eight weeks. The project schedule has been affected by manufacturing and shipping delays.

Bloomfield Playground

Construction is underway and expected to continue through May 2026.

The contractor has completed assembly and installation of the playground equipment, and installation of the poured-in-place (PIP) rubberized surfacing is scheduled to begin the week of April 13, 2026. Staff have received a \$131,441.83 change order for removal and replacement of deteriorated PIP surfacing at Rynerson Park and will return to Council for approval to increase contract authority and appropriate an additional \$110,000 in General Funds. The CIP Committee supports forwarding the request for Council consideration.

Mayfair Pool Fence Replacement

Design of fence and landscaping improvements is underway by Hirsch and Associates, with draft plans reviewed and comments provided for revision. Final plans will be submitted for building plan check upon completion. Originally funded for FY 2027–28 under Measure L, the CIP now includes General Fund support to advance the project and expedite delivery due to the fence's deteriorating condition.

Lakewood Boulevard Corridor

Design for complete street improvements along the Lakewood Boulevard Corridor is finalized, except for undergrounding of overhead utilities, which is being designed by Southern California

Edison (SCE). Distribution line undergrounding is funded and constructed under Rule 20A, while transmission-related work under Rule 20B is funded by Metro and includes design, potholing, and vault installation. The city has secured a Rule 20B extension through 2027, and staff continue to monitor SCE's progress.

Traffic Signal Improvements – 12 Intersections

The work has been substantially completed. Staff are working with the contractor and Willdan on project documentation closeout and labor compliance.

RRFB at Del Amo Boulevard and Claretta Avenue

A striped crosswalk exists at Del Amo Blvd. and Claretta Ave., a shared intersection between Lakewood and Cerritos. The cities are jointly installing a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) under a cooperative agreement. Design is complete, and Hardy & Harper, as part of the Annual Streets and Alley Resurfacing project, will construct the improvements. Equipment has been ordered with a five-week lead time, and construction is expected to take about one month after delivery.

Annual Sidewalk and Mobility Improvements

CJ Concrete Construction and Precision Concrete are continuing citywide hardscape repairs. The total estimated cost for sidewalk repairs is just under \$8 million, funded through Measures M, R, SB1, and TDA. Citywide repairs are expected to be completed by the conclusion of FY25/26.

Annual Streets and Alley Resurfacing

Carson St., Downey Ave., Neighborhood Area 1, and alley work are complete, with minor corrective repairs remaining. Lakewood Blvd., added afterward, is also complete, aside from minor corrective work. Clark Ave., Norwalk Blvd., Centralia St., and Neighborhood Area 2 improvements are finished, with signage and striping ongoing. Work on Palo Verde Ave. has begun and is expected to continue into next month.

Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Upgrades – Palo Verde and Studebaker Traffic Calming Pilot Project

At the February 24, 2026, meeting, City Council authorized staff to approve a change order with Hardy and Harper for pavement rehabilitation on Palo Verde Ave. from Carson St. to South St. After resurfacing, striping, signage and raised rubber curbs will be installed per Ardurra's traffic calming design. The project will reconfigure the corridor to include parking lanes on both sides, Class II bike lanes in both directions, one travel lane each way, and a center two-way left-turn lane. A temporary rubber-curb roundabout will be installed at Candlewood St. and Palo Verde Ave. The intersection will not be repaved initially, as the improvements are being evaluated as a pilot project. Willdan has completed a similar traffic calming design for Studebaker Rd. between Del Amo Blvd. and the I-605 bridge, including lane reductions, added parking, and three

roundabouts at Gordon Pl., Lemming St., and Gridley Rd. These will also be implemented as a pilot project. Staff are finalizing a phase 1 change order with Hardy & Harper for Studebaker Rd., including striping removal and replacement and installation of asphalt concrete (AC) curbs for roundabouts and medians. AC curbs were selected over rubber for easier future removal or modification. Staff will return to Council for authorization of approximately \$360,000 for phase 1 and \$1.74 million for final improvements, funded through Measures M and R balances.

Draft 7-Year CIP Plan Update

Thaddeus informed the Committee of a newly identified CIP budget issue after staff discovered the HVAC project funding excluded the loan principal payment, creating a significant gap. Staff also identified urgent unfunded infrastructure needs, including repairs to Mayfair Pool fencing, PIP playground surfaces, and critical park equipment. With approximately a \$6 million balance available in one reserve fund, staff recommended using \$3 million to address these needs.

Kenneth Rosenfield presented on the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), outlining the revised seven-year plan and two-year budget for facility, park, street, water, stormwater, and fleet improvements. The draft aligns Council priorities with available funding sources and includes project updates, estimated budgets, and new park improvement projects, including an estimated annual allocation of approximately \$350,000. Following CIP Committee approval, staff will finalize the two-year CIP budget and submit the seven-year CIP plan to the Planning and Environment Commission for General Plan consistency review before presenting it to the City Council for adoption. Staff will continue updating the CIP through the city's regular budget cycle, with additional projects requiring separate City Council approval. The finalized plan will be available through the City Clerk's office for public review. Staff recommended that the CIP Committee approve the updated seven-year CIP plan and two-year CIP budget and recommend that the City Council adopt the updated two-year CIP budget. The Committee approved the recommendation. Additionally, staff recommended drawing \$3 million from the CIP reserve to address identified funding needs. Committee Members supported allocating the necessary reserve funds, including the use of the full amount in reserve if needed, to cover the loan principle and required infrastructure improvements.

On May 19, 2026, the Public Safety Committee met and discussed:

Vai O Le Ola Bingo Update:

Administrative Services Manager Andrew Camacho reviewed the Vai O Le Ola six-month bingo night update, and staff recommended permanent extension of second bingo night.

After careful review of permits and policies, Committee Members approved extension of second bingo night with conditions and policies to be adhered to by the organization.

Firework Booth Update:

Administrative Services Manager Camacho reviewed firework booth report and municipal codes related to profit and stand locations, and staff recommended motion to move to Council, which was supported by the Committee members.

Crime Trends and Statistics:

Sergeant Johnson reviewed Part I crimes noting a decrease in crime with catalytic converter thefts dwindling down in comparison to previous month and, in comparison to last year. Sergeant Johnson reviewed Part I crimes at Lakewood Center Mall with a slight increase in crime due to e-bike thefts, and Public Safety Director Josh Yordt shared crime at Lakewood Center Mall has significantly decreased in comparison to last year.

Sergeant Johnson reviewed Special Assignment Officer statistics with significant increase in arrests, citations, and continued proactive patrol and enforcements.

Sergeant Johnson shared DUI suppression detail conducted by Los Angeles Sheriff's Department and efforts to continue working on drone program.

Sergeant Johnson shared details and updates related to Sergeant Gekas funeral services.

Homeless Services and Programs Update:

Management Analyst Ruby Picon reviewed homeless services dashboard highlighting successful placements and occupancy rate at the Bell Shelter, including homeless services liaison's ongoing efforts to work with homeless individuals and provide outreach services.

Homeless Services Liaison Adriana Lopez shared current efforts to assist specific homeless individual with Los Angeles County CARE court program and to provide individual with outreach services.

Homeless Services Liaison Lopez shared success in assisting and advocating for homeless individual to receive long-term assistance.

Abatement Deputy Nowotny shared positive comments and expressed gratitude about the proactive efforts and positive collaboration with Homeless Services Liaisons, Public Safety officers, and Homeless Services Maintenance Trainees for clean-up of debris and encampments.

Community Prosecutor Program Update:

Deputy District Attorney Drew Josfan shared updates related to specific location and success in solving quality of life issues.

Public Safety Department Update:

Management Analyst Picon provided Public Safety department update highlighting successful participation from residents, and positive and impactful reformation of programs by the community engagement division in Public Safety.

Emergency Preparedness Manager Chuck Martucci shared Office of Emergency Management updates including collaborations and partnerships with emergency preparedness vendors and services, shared information presented at the California Emergency Services Association conference, and shared updates related to RAVE for alert messaging.

Public Safety Director Yordt shared personnel changes in Public Safety and presented new Public Safety Program Coordinator for community engagement division. He also shared updates about recruitments for Public Safety Supervisor and Support Services Clerk vacancies.

Public Safety Director Yordt presented illegal firework suppression enforcement detail, including Public Safety officer's initiatives to provide educational materials and conversations about safety with organizations at fireworks booths, and shared enforcement and patrol at the city's annual Block Party event.

Public Information Officer April Johnson presented illegal fireworks suppression campaigns shared via social platforms and message boards located throughout the city.

Public Safety Director Yordt shared enforcement efforts and proactive patrol at locations that are known to use illegal fireworks in previous years, and provided schedule for illegal fireworks enforcement suppression detail conducted by Public Safety and Sheriff's Deputies, with location change of command post.

Public Outreach:

Public Information Officer Johnson shared Public Outreach updates with campaigns focused on Public Safety education and enforcement awareness and community building.

Follow- Up Items:

Chairman Rogers made comments related to traffic calming measures for areas where roundabouts will be integrated and made supportive comments about city's efforts for traffic calming measures.

Miscellaneous:

Member of the public made comments about Federal Bureau of Investigations in Lakewood.

Member of the public made comments about concerns related to Motorola Solutions potential contract with federal law enforcement agencies.

Member of the public made comments about traffic safety and commended Public Safety for ongoing efforts.

Member of the public made comments about disarming sworn law enforcement officials.

Member of the public made comments about Motorola Solutions and automated license plate readers.

Member of the public shared interest in meeting Public Safety Director and employment opportunities.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council receive and file this report.

Thaddeus McCormack

City Manager

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