



CITY OF

RANCHO PALOS VERDES

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER • 30940 HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD, RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CA 90275 • WEBSITE: WWW.RPVCAGOV • 310.544.5200

## HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY, RPV!

On September 7, 1973, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes was incorporated following a long-fought effort to protect our community from threats of high-density development and to preserve our natural resources. With its incorporation, RPV became the youngest and largest city on the Peninsula, home today to approximately 42,000 residents, a 1,500-acre nature preserve, and hundreds more acres of open space.

We hope you were able to join us for the past year of events counting down to our golden anniversary, culminating with the 50th Anniversary Gala on September 9 at Terranea Resort. Be sure to go to [rpv50.com](http://rpv50.com) for photo galleries from the festivities, photos from the past five decades, and to learn about the history of RPV's cityhood.

Thank you, RPV, for helping us celebrate, and a special thank you to our generous sponsors who made the past year such a success!



## THIRD TIME'S THE CHARM:

## RPV WELCOMES SAKURA CITY DELEGATES TO CELEBRATE THREE-YEAR SISTER CITY ANNIVERSARY

After three years of connecting virtually, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes was delighted to welcome dignitaries from Sakura City, Japan, to RPV in August for our first in-person meeting since becoming sister cities. The delegates watched superstar Shohei Ohtani hit his 40th home run of the season at Angel Stadium, and took a day-long tour of RPV's parks,



landmarks, and points of interest. Delegates wrapped up their visit at the Ken Dyda Civic Center for cross-cultural festivities and an exchange of gifts as part of the Third Anniversary Sister City Celebration. The public celebration was attended by Kenko Sone, Consul General of Japan in Los Angeles. The City looks forward to

welcoming another delegation from Sakura City, including Mayor Takashi Hanatsuka, in September for the 50th Anniversary Gala.

## LAND MOTION COMMOTION

The City of Rancho Palos Verdes extends its sympathy to all those affected by the devastating land movement that took place over the summer in Rolling Hills Estates. The City has received calls from RPV residents in neighborhoods throughout the City with questions about land movement and homeowners insurance coverage.

Per [Ready.Gov](http://Ready.Gov), if you are worried about land movement on your property, look for signs of potential land activity, such as cracks or bulges in the ground, street

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## SPOTLIGHT ON KARISSA RUSSELL AND CHERI BAILIFF: PUBLIC WORKS' DYNAMIC DUO



This edition spotlights two employees who truly put the WORK in Public Works. Karissa Russell and Cheri Bailiff took time out of their busy lives as Permit Technicians to answer questions about themselves, their work backgrounds, and what brought them to Rancho Palos Verdes. Batman and Robin have nothing on this Dynamic Duo! Wham! Kapow!

First off, what does a Permit Technician do? How do you two share this role?

**Cheri:** Permit Technicians process Encroachment applications for various types of work in the public right of way. Examples include removal/replacement of driveway approaches, curbs, gutters, and sidewalk panels. Encroachment permits also involve haul routes, crane service, and utility work. Permit Technicians also act as liaisons between the applicant and reviewers and coordinate with inspectors regarding sites, plans and unpermitted work. Standard office duties also fall under our domain.

**Karissa:** I process the majority of encroachment and parking permit requests. I accept the applications, notify applicants of permit status, request required supporting documentation, submit plans for reviews, create customer invoices, and respond to inquiries from residents, applicants, and inspectors. I also help post Traffic Safety Committee (TSC) and Infrastructure Management Advisory Committee (IMAC) agendas to the City website when needed. I also gather all the articles for the Weekly Administrative Report from Public Works Staff and submit the final draft to the City Clerk's Office.

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## LADERA LINDA COMMUNITY PARK: ALMOST READY FOR ITS CLOSEUP



It's been said that a Monet painting is beautiful from a distance but a bit blurry up close, and a Seurat painting is nothing but pixelated points that only show their true form from a respectful distance. For the past year-and-a-half, Ladera Linda has been fenced up, visible only from a distance when one strolls along Forrestal Drive. One gets a sense of the potential - the community building taking shape, the growing landscape, the coalescing paths, the playground's footprint, and the whispered promise of future basketball and paddle tennis matches - all revealing their forms but remaining tantalizingly out of reach.

But not for long. Within a few months, Ladera Linda, like Norma Desmond, will step out of the shadows and announce that she is ready for her long-anticipated closeup. It's been a long time since this project began in 2014, but the wait is almost over. Like artwork, a park shouldn't be locked away from sight - it needs to be seen and experienced to truly exist. Well soon residents will have an intimate look at a community jewel that has too long hidden itself in the fog and mist of a construction site.

For a virtual view, go to the [rpvca.gov/LaderaLinda](http://rpvca.gov/LaderaLinda) for minute-by-minute snapshots of the evolving project's progress. And to learn more about Monet or Seurat, go to Paris.

ECR-WSS

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## HELLO HELOPOD: NEW HIGH CAPACITY TOOL FOR FIGHTING WILDFIRES



HeloPod? Surely you mean helipad. Nope, different words but both help fight fires and save lives, and now the City of RPV has a Helopod located right by its existing helipad. A HeloPod allows a firefighting helicopter to automatically fill up four times faster while hovering than by replenishing its tank by landing. When every second counts, this timesaving measure can help save and protect lives and homes. On June 20, the City of RPV joined officials from the other three Peninsula cities, the Los Angeles County Fire Department, Cal Water, and Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn at the Ken Dyda Civic Center to commission a new HeloPod firefighting dip source and cistern just in time for the wildfire-prone summer and fall months. Funded through a Cal Water grant for \$38,000, the 7,000-gallon capacity HeloPod will benefit and protect communities throughout Southern California. No need to say anything else, you had us at Helo.

## RPV ROCKS:

Find the Four Hidden California Coastal National Monument (CCNM) Rock Formations.



Created in 2000, the California Coastal National Monument consists of 20,000 rocks, islands, exposed reefs and pinnacles and almost 8,000 acres of land. Many of the most photographed formations on the Rancho Palos Verdes coastline are part of the CCNM. Look for four majestic but mini outcroppings in this newsletter. For more information on the CCNM go to: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/national-conservation-lands/california/california-coastal>.

## FIRE UP! TIPS FOR FINDING RESIDENTIAL FIRE INSURANCE

Need help finding fire insurance for your home? In the wake of destructive fire seasons, homeowners in areas of California that are at high risk for wildfires have reported losing their homeowners' insurance or seeing their premiums skyrocket. As a result, many have been left to seek expensive, limited coverage through the California Fair Access to Insurance Requirements (FAIR) Plan as a last resort. The California Department of Insurance (CDI) provides a number of tools on its website ([www.insurance.ca.gov](http://www.insurance.ca.gov)) to help consumers understand home/residential insurance so that they can make the best decision for their situation, including informational guides, a premium comparison tool, and a new coverage comparison tool that allows consumers to compare differences between insurance policies.

## JUST A JOB? WHY NOT CONSIDER A CAREER!

If we aren't currently recruiting for a position that fits your career path, click on Menu located in the top left hand corner of our careers page, and complete a Job Interest Card. You'll receive an email notification each time a position opens with the City of Rancho Palos Verdes whose category matches one of the categories you've chosen. Thank you for your interest in employment with the City of Rancho Palos Verdes - *Where your job search ends and your career begins!*

## DOCENTS: LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD VOLUNTEERS!

### Become a Docent.

Open House Wednesday, September 6, 2023 @ 7pm

at Point Vicente Interpretive Center

31501 Palos Verdes Drive West, Rancho Palos Verdes

(First Class Wednesday, September 13)

Call 310 - 544 - 5375



Enrich your life by becoming a volunteer docent with Los Serenos de Point Vicente. Docent training starts Wednesday, September 13, from 12:30 pm-3:30 pm at the Point Vicente Interpretive Center. Classes are every Wednesday through November. The class format will be a mixture of lectures and field trips.

For more information, please email Ann Zellers at [annz@rpvca.gov](mailto:annz@rpvca.gov) or attend the Open House on September 6, at 7:00 pm at the Point Vicente Interpretive Center.

For over 39 years, this non-profit organization has been assisting the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, benefiting children and the community. Docents learn, then interpret natural and cultural history via nature walks, Interpretive Center museum tours, or outreach programs. Plus, they can enjoy fun docent gatherings and interesting field trips. The Point Vicente Interpretive Center is located at 31501 Palos Verdes Drive West, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275. For more info, call Ann Zellers at 310.544.5265 or go to [www.LosSerenos.org](http://www.LosSerenos.org) or [www.facebook.com/LosSerenos](https://www.facebook.com/LosSerenos).

## KARISSA RUSSELL AND CHERI BAILIFF

(Continued from page 1)

**Cheri:** While I process permit applications as well, I also accept Special Event Applications and vendor invoices. I also liaise with the TSC, send Zoom invites, manage the Zooming during the meeting and post the agenda to the City website. I also help manage the Public Works webpage and proudly serve on the RPV Employees Association Board.

Karissa and I also search for requested items involving Public Records Act requests (PRAS). We also work with Community Development for processing drainage reviews. I am very proud of how Public Works is reducing its carbon footprint. Together, Karissa and I have moved from paper applications to electronic submittals and created electronic storage for all current, finalized, and expired permit documents.

**Tell our readers a little about your prior work experience and education? What led you to Public Works?**

**Cheri:** I graduated from CSU, Long Beach with a Liberal Arts B.A., specialization in Anthropology, and a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential. I taught in public and private schools for almost 20 years. The last eight of those years were also as an Assistant Principal. Due to an illness, I had to quit teaching. A few years later, I was able to begin working part-time and found a position with the City of RPV. I started as a Staff Assistant in Building and Safety and found my way three years later as a full-time employee with Public Works. I have enjoyed every moment working here!

**Karissa:** I was a personal assistant for an owner of an air-conditioning business. One of my many duties included pulling building permits for scheduled work. While visiting city hall building counters, I noticed how contractors were often frustrated with the time spent not physically working. I had a business idea and started a company to pull permits for small businesses and eventually contracted with large home-improvement stores. After visiting many permit counters in Southern California, I found myself wanting to be on the other side of the counter issuing permits. In 2019, I started public service for the City of

Fullerton as a permit technician and eventually found my way to RPV Public Works in 2022.

**What qualities are needed to be an effective Permit Tech?**

**Cheri:** The three main qualities for this position are organization, time management and advanced customer service skills. All three of these qualities work hand-in-hand. Whether you are helping a customer or gathering information for an engineer or project manager, mastering these qualities will only lead to success, for you and those around you.

**What are the most challenging aspects of your jobs? The most rewarding?**

**Cheri:** Challenges: Time constraints. We are very busy. Sometimes we have to put other duties temporarily aside due to high-priority items.

Rewards: Success! Even though we find ourselves busy, Permit Technicians always manage to complete their duties!

**What would you like the residents of RPV to know about you?**

**Cheri:** Permit Technicians work hard for RPV residents and its customers. We find answers for residents and coworkers. We understand what is needed to complete a job successfully!

**Karissa:** Both Cheri and I are here to help with any questions or concerns you may have.

**Anything non-work related you'd like to share? Favorite book, movie, leisure time activities, vacation spot etc...**

**Cheri:** I enjoy reading mysteries. My favorite author is PD James but now have started reading Louise Penny and John Grisham. I also enjoy Dianne Mott Davidson for fun reading (great recipes!). I enjoy classic movies but also a good suspense film! I love visiting Santa Ynez Valley. I also started swimming again.

**Karissa:** I am a mom to a 2-year-old named Nolan. I love Disney; I could talk for hours about theme park history. A dream of mine is to visit an international Disney Park and eat at the very exclusive Club 33.

# LEGISLATION CORNER



CITY OF **50** RANCHO PALOS VERDES

## BILL ME LATER! LEGISLATION CORNER UPDATE

The City Council evaluates pending bills in Congress and the California Legislature, establishing positions on matters vital to efficient governance, City concerns, and local jurisdiction authority. On December 20, 2022, the Council endorsed the 2023 Legislative Platform, articulating their policy stances on City-centric topics. Scan the QR Code to explore the Legislative platform, stay informed about noteworthy bills, and read letters of endorsement or opposition for the current session.



## LAND MOTION (Continued from page 1)

pavement, or sidewalks; soil moving away from foundations; tilting of patios or foundations; broken water lines; or leaning telephone poles, trees, walls, or fences.

Watch for slow-moving landslides, or earthflows, that pose threats to property:

- Changes occur in your landscape such as patterns of storm-water drainage on slopes (especially the places where runoff water converges) land movement, small slides, flows, or progressively leaning trees.
- Doors or windows stick or jam for the first time.
- New cracks appear in plaster, tile, brick or foundations.
- Outside walls, walkways or stairs begin pulling away from the building.
- Slowly developing, widening cracks appear on the ground or on paved areas such as streets or driveways.
- Underground utility lines break.
- Bulging ground appears at the base of a slope.
- Water breaks through the ground surface in new locations.
- Fences, retaining walls, utility poles, or trees tilt or move.
- The ground slopes downward in one direction and may begin shifting in that direction under your feet.

For urgent matters or observation of any sudden shifts on your property, please call 9-1-1.

You may consider hiring a geologist to review the conditions of your property. Please note that the City's geologist does not conduct site visits of private property that is not part of a development permit application. While the City does not make referrals or recommendations, the Building and Safety Division maintains a list of geotechnical engineers who work in the area, which is available on request. The Building and Safety Division can be reached at 310.544.5280 or [buildingsafety@rpvca.gov](mailto:buildingsafety@rpvca.gov).

## DOES HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE COVER LAND MOVEMENT?

News reports underscore that land movement-related damages are not usually covered by most homeowners insurance policies. Now may be a good time to re-read your policy. While understanding the nuances of your insurance coverage is essential, generally, homeowners insurance policies in California offer coverage for accidental physical loss to property, but with certain exclusions and limitations. Standard exclusions often include damages from floods, earth movements, earthquakes, landslides, mudflows, etc. You may have read that a specialized difference in conditions (DIC) policy can secure coverage against land movement. **However, it is City staff's understanding that these policies are nearly impossible to find, available only from large brokers who sell commercial insurance, extremely expensive, and/or may not be currently available in Southern California.** Please note that these DIC policies are different from DIC policies that are paired with FAIR Plan policies to fill gaps in coverage. Residents are encouraged to contact the California Department of Insurance with any homeowners insurance questions they may have at 1.800.927.4357 or by going to <https://www.insurance.ca.gov>.

## CRIME COLUMN

### EVENT WAS A RESOUNDING SUCCESS



Catalytic converter theft is a rising crime issue so the City of RPV hosted an etching event on July 29. This event aimed to curb catalytic converter thefts by providing an etching service for residents' vehicles. Etching a unique identification number onto the catalytic converters helps to deter potential thieves and aid law enforcement in tracking stolen converters.

The event was a great success, with a strong turnout from the community. 158 catalytic converters were etched that day. The City would like to remind everyone that while this initiative is a step in the right direction, it's important to remain vigilant and take other preventive measures to protect your vehicles. Keep your vehicles parked in well-lit areas, and consider installing security devices if you haven't already.



**We couldn't have done it without these partners!**  
Los Angeles Sheriff Department Lomita Station Deputies, Explorers, and Volunteers, who joined forces, and Torrance Auto Repair Mechanics & VanLingen Tow, whose expertise streamlined the etching process.

### EVERYONE NEEDS A NIGHT OUT: NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AT HESSE PARK



Maybe not as exciting as a "Barbenheimer" evening but the August 1 National Night Out at Hesse Park was a great event even without Ken and Barbie. National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. Neighbors and Neighborhood Watch Block Captains come together for an evening of fun, camaraderie, and conversations.

Residents had the opportunity to engage with local law enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency personnel in a relaxed and festive atmosphere. Thank you to sponsors Handel's Homemade Ice Cream in Manhattan Beach and Starbuck's Coffee at Golden Cove. Fostering strong relationships between the community and public safety agencies is crucial for maintaining a safe and secure neighborhood.

### PUBLIC SAFETY IS POPPING



Public safety is popping up all over! Public Safety Pop Up Events are designed to bring essential emergency preparedness and safety information directly to your neighborhood or business. The goal is to engage residents in a more personalized setting, address specific concerns, and provide neighbors and neighborhoods with the necessary tools to enhance safety.

#### How it works

If you're interested in hosting a Public Safety Pop Up Event in your neighborhood or business, simply email [PublicSafety@rpvca.gov](mailto:PublicSafety@rpvca.gov). Let us know your preferred date, time, and location, and we'll work with you to coordinate the event. Whether you're a homeowners' association, a local business owner, or a concerned resident, these events are open to everyone.

## HOLIDAY PICKUP SCHEDULE

EDCO 310.540.2977, [www.rpvrecycles.com](http://www.rpvrecycles.com)

September: No Trash/recycling/organics service on Monday, September 4th. There will be a one-day service delay all week for all routes.



**October:** Regular schedule. No changes.

**November 2023:** No Trash/recycling/organics service on Thursday, November 23, Thanksgiving Day. There will be a one-day service delay for Thursday and Friday routes. There will be regular collection for the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday customers.

**Discounts Available:** EDCO offers various discounts to customers:  
1) Customers 65 and older are eligible for a 10% senior citizen discount (a one-time only application is needed for a new senior citizen customer).  
2) If you pay for trash services a year in advance (discount available only with the July-Sept invoice) you are eligible for a 5% annual pre-payment discount.  
3) Low-income customers may qualify for a 5% discount (same household income criteria as CARE). These discounts are not exclusive and may be combined. For more information contact EDCO at 310.540.2977 or check the City's website at: [rpvca.gov/trash](http://rpvca.gov/trash).

## BRUSH COLLECTION DAYS

Disposing of excess vegetation and tree trimming around your home is not only simple, but you are also helping reduce fuel load and prevent brush fires.

Use your green carts, personal cans and/or tied bundles (no plastic bags) and leave them at the curb. Find your collection day and mark your calendars for the upcoming fall brush clearing event!



Regular Trash Day	Brush Collection Day
Monday	Saturday, October 7
Tuesday	Saturday, October 14
Wednesday	Saturday, October 21
Thursday	Saturday, October 28
Friday	Saturday, November 4

Brush clearance will take place rain or shine. If you have any questions, call EDCO at 310.540.2977 or visit <http://www.rpvca.gov/327/Recycling-Programs>. Please complete your brush clearing before your designated day.

## CITY HALL PHONE NUMBERS

### City Hall Main Line

City Manager's Office  
City Clerk's Office  
Finance  
Community Development  
Human Resources  
Public Works  
Recreation and Parks  
Building & Safety Division  
Code Enforcement



**310.544.5200**  
310.544.5207  
310.544.5217  
310.544.5304  
310.544.5228  
310.544.5327  
310.544.5252  
310.544.5260  
310.544.5280  
310.544.5281

## CITY COUNCIL

Barbara Ferraro, Mayor

Email: [barbara.ferraro@rpvca.gov](mailto:barbara.ferraro@rpvca.gov)

John Cruikshank, Mayor Pro Tem

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Eric Alegria, Councilmember

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David Bradley, Councilmember

Email: [david.bradley@rpvca.gov](mailto:david.bradley@rpvca.gov)

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Email: [paul.seo@rpvca.gov](mailto:paul.seo@rpvca.gov)

Email [cc@rpvca.gov](mailto:cc@rpvca.gov) to contact the entire City Council

## CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES NEWSLETTER



Editors: Matt Waters and Karina Bañales

Fall 2023 Newsletter and  
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Comments? Contact Matt Waters at [mattw@rpvca.gov](mailto:mattw@rpvca.gov) or 310.544.5218

## Your Ride Has Arrived.

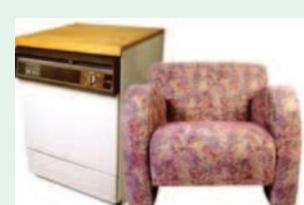
Service throughout the Peninsula including schools.

PV Transit Fall  
service begins  
August 25.



For info visit  
[pulosverdes.com/pvtransit/](http://pulosverdes.com/pvtransit/)  
or call 310-544-7108

## GREEN CORNER



### TIME TO BULK OUT

Want to get rid of an old couch, mattress, or water heater? First try to donate it by contacting a charitable organization or placing it on Craigslist or Nextdoor under "free items". If you are unsuccessful, then call EDCO at 310.540.2977 and schedule a free bulky item collection. EDCO provides bulky item collection up to four times a year free of charge. Do not leave abandoned items at the curb. Please help keep our neighborhoods clean!

### TIME FOR A CHEMICAL REPEAL: DETOX YOUR HOUSE OF USED OIL, OLD PAINT, AND HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS

If you have old paint (oil or water based) and household hazardous waste material or electronic waste, take it to the Gaffey SAFE Center located at 1400 N. Gaffey, San Pedro. The center is open to LA County residents every Saturday and Sunday from 9 am to 3 pm. Visit [https://www.lacsd.org/solidwaste/swfacilities/recyclecontact/hhw\\_e\\_waste/](https://www.lacsd.org/solidwaste/swfacilities/recyclecontact/hhw_e_waste/) for more information.

### PUT YOUR DOCUMENT TROUBLES TO SHRED AND LET YOUR E-WASTE WASTE AWAY



Ready to embrace Marie Kondo or the Swedish Death Clean? Bring your personal and private documents and unwanted electronics such as TVs, computer monitors, CPS, printers and DVD players to the upcoming Document Shred and E-waste Event on Saturday, November 4, 2023 at the RPV Civic Center (City Hall) in the overflow parking lot, 30940 Hawthorne Blvd., from 8 am to 11 am.



Certified shredding trucks will be on-site during this event. No household hazardous waste material (e.g., no paint, no fluorescent light bulbs, etc.) will be accepted. Love gardening? Free mulch will be available to residents, while supplies last. This is a self-service and self-haul event. Please bring your own trashcans or sturdy yard bags, gloves and a shovel. Limit of 3 cans/bags per vehicle. If you plan to haul your compost in an open truck or trailer, please remember to bring a tarp to cover your material.