

MAR/APR 2020

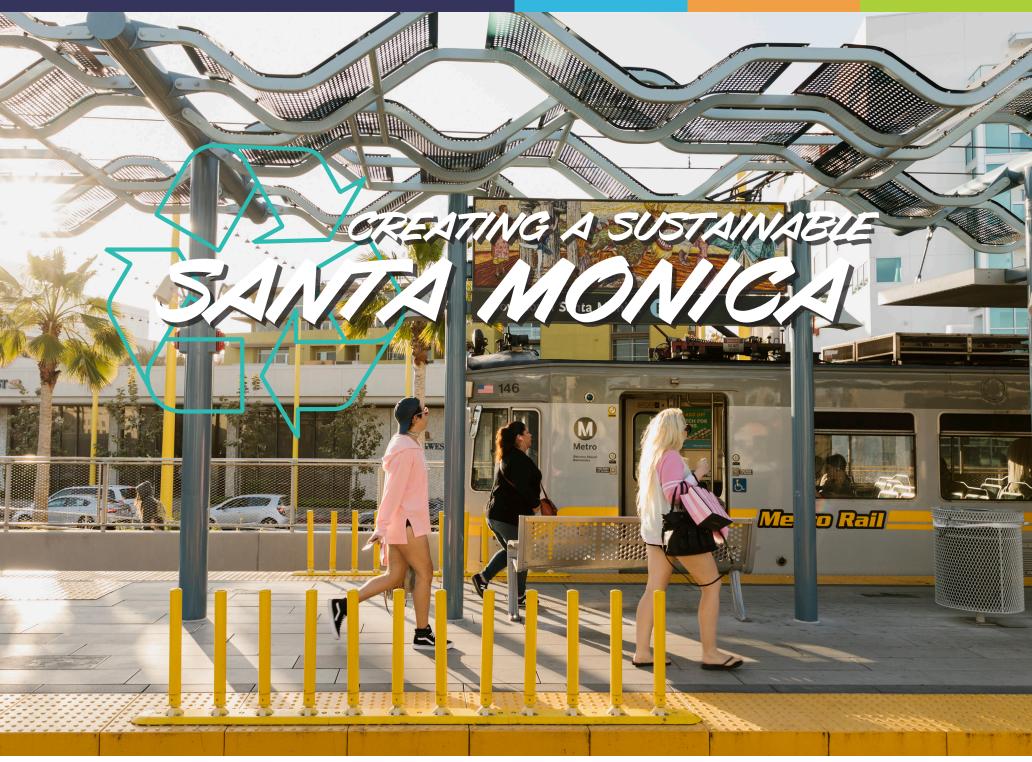
07

02

04

THE SUSTAINABILITY GAME

ABOUT VOTING IN 2020



PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

anta Monica has communitywide sustainability in its sights, and due to careful planning and timely investments, the future

promises to reach important sustainability milestones for years to come. This year will be a year to remember. There is the grand opening of City Hall East slated for April 22, the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. City Hall East is a vital update to the Historic City Hall campus. It also happens to be the greenest municipal building in the U.S., and perhaps anywhere on the planet.

We also come together in celebration of 25 years of Santa Monica's Sustainable City Plan, a nation-leading effort that drives progress across the board. In the last year, we've seen 93% of all electricity customers converted to clean power, the most solar electric installations on record, and further reductions against single-use plastics. And

the list of successes will continue to grow in the coming years as new investments on organics recycling and water projects come on-line, helping us to reach zero waste and water self-sufficiency goals.

Yet, our spirits are tempered by the change we see around us. The 2010s were the

hottest decade in history, and the impacts human activities place on natural systems is now undeniable. The atmosphere, oceans, forest systems, and wildlife habitats in which we and all other species rely on is in a rapid state of change. As a community, we must redouble our efforts to slow the rate of change, to ensure a sustainable Santa Monica, for the sake of current and future generations. That's what the Santa Monica Sustainable City Plan is all about, and now, we just have to make it happen. For more information, visit SMgov.net/Departments/OSE.

SANTA MONICA, CA PERMIT NO. 147 PAID U. S. POSTAGE **PRSRT STD**

90407-2200 AD, esinoM etneS P.O. Box 2200 1685 Main Street

QUARTERLY UPDATE FROM CHIEF RENAUD



n police work, we often compare crime from one vear to the other. This helps create benchmarks so we can determine if crime is up or down. While it's a great tool, it does not provide the entire picture of what is happening with crime in our community. I want to share the latest crime trends and get into the key details about those crimes.

Overall, crime is trending downwards in Santa Monica, and has been for the last thirteen months. Now, this does not mean that crime is not happening.

Even though it has been the lowest in has been, I understand, community concerns about the types of crime happening in our City.

As the graph below shows, crime has been rising steadily since 2015. In 2019, we made adjustments to our work force and the way we approach crime. These efforts have led to a substantial decrease. If we keep operating at the current level, we can bring our crime rates to the lowest it has been in six decades.

Now, let's take a look into our numbers and put them into context. Part I crime is often discussed in two categories: Violent crime and property crime. Violent Crime is down this year by 16%. Our Violent Crime is comprised mostly of Aggravated Assaults and Robberies. In our Aggravated Assault category, 21% of those are crimes of Domestic Violence related. The remaining 79% are related to road rage, workplace violence, and alcohol involved issues. In the 318 aggravated assaults, SMPD made arrests in 80% of the cases.

In the robbery category, 22% were Estes Robberies, meaning they began as shoplifts from stores but the suspect used force trying to flee; 60% were "strong arm" robberies, meaning no weapon was used, and in the majority of those crimes the #1 loss was a cell phone.

Santa Monica experienced 16% fewer property crimes in 2019. Larceny of all types still drives crime in our city. The category of larceny includes shoplifting, bicycle thefts, and items stolen out of unlocked vehicles. Bicycle thefts saw a particularly high increase in 2018, climbing to 632 incidents. In 2019, we saw that number reduce to 438 incidents of stolen bicycles. This is the lowest number of stolen bikes we have seen in the last five years. Still, bicycle theft makes up for 14% of all larcenies. Shoplifting, is just the opposite. For the past four years, it's been consistent at about 350-380 incidents every year. But in 2019, we had 479 incidents. This category accounts for 15% of all larcenies.

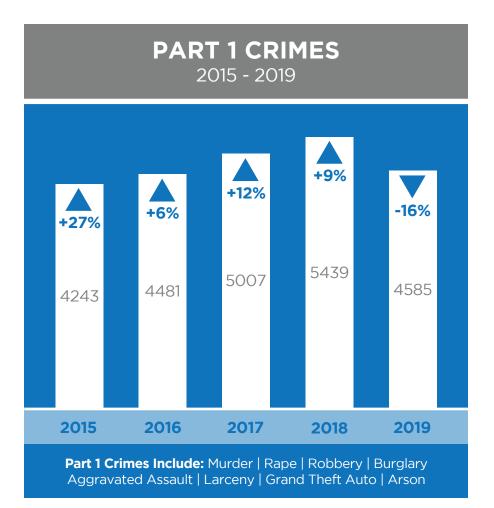
The last big category is theft from motor vehicles. This is when a car is left unlocked and someone enters it and steals things. Theft from one's

car accounts for 37% of our larcenies. Keep in mind that in 38% of those cases, we found the car was left unlocked. When the car is locked and broken into, that crime that crime is now classified as a burglary. We've made progress in 2019 with 354 fewer incidents of thefts from vehicles and burglaries to vehicles. We found that backpacks are the #1 item stolen, followed by laptops and other electronics, so please don't leave these items in your car, whether your car is locked or unlocked. In the burglary category, residential burglary accounted for 68% of all burglaries. This is, however, 44 fewer residential burglaries than the year before. Of the 387 residential burglaries, we found out that in 38% of all the cases, the homes were left unlocked.

In 2019, the Santa Monica Police Department handled 123,491 calls for service and made 3,840 arrests. We intend to work hard in 2020 to continue to decrease crime and increase our citizen's sense of safety. And, you have a new cadre of leaders who have risen through the ranks of SMPD to serve you. I am pleased to announce that I recently promoted three captains, four lieutenants, and three sergeants.

As always, remember to secure your valuables, lock your cars and homes, be aware of your surroundings when out and about, report suspicious or criminal behavior. And please, get to know us. If you have some inperson time to spare, participate in our Community Police Academy. Let's step into this new decade the right way: with a safer city built on strong relationships between all of us.

For more information please visit, SantaMonicaPD.org, and follow SMPD on SantaMonicaPD (Contemportation of Contemportation) (Contemportation) (Contemportati



SHARED MOBILITY HELPS REDUCE VEHICLE TRIPS AROUND TOWN



02

ccording to the City's resident travel survey, 52% of vehicle trips in Santa Monica are under 3 miles. In September 2017, Santa Monica witnessed the launch of the shared dockless electric scooters program. City Council had seen the opportunity to

move people in a new way, especially for short trips around town. The City designed a pilot program to test shared electric scooters and electric bikes operated by private companies, using a flexible permit approach that was responsive to community needs, technological advancements, and the nascent and fast-evolving industry.

The pilot program demonstrated that shared mobility is an extremely popular transportation option and has the potential to replace short vehicle trips, which could drastically reduce congestion and carbon emissions. After the program launch, people quickly took to riding the e-scooters and e-bikes. From October 2018 through September 2019, shared mobility users took more than 2.67 million trips on e-scooters and e-bikes, with an average trip distance of 1.4 miles. In a survey of shared mobility users, 49% reported that their most recent shared mobility trip would have otherwise been made by car, either driving alone or ridehailing using Lyft or Uber.

While a great deal of progress was made to integrate this new transportation mode into the City, the delivery of some public values such as equity, safety, affordability, rider behavior, sustainability, and reliability

still need substantial improvement. Building on the successes of the pilot program and to address remaining challenges, City Council approved a second shared mobility pilot program, which will launch in July 2020. The second program will focus efforts on improving customer service, transportation safety, sustainability, and financial outcomes. For more information about the Shared Mobility Pilot Program, visit SMgov.net/SharedMobility.



SUSTAINABLE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT



anta Monica Water is going hyper-local with a new advanced water project currently under construction in the Civic Center Parking Lot called the "Sustainable Water Infrastructure Project" (SWIP). SWIP, a huge underground collection facility, will bring new water resources into Santa Monica's network by capturing and purifying rainwater and wastewater for non-potable uses like irrigating

purifying rainwater and wastewater for non-potable uses, like irrigating plants and flushing toilets. SWIP is a key component in meeting the City's goal of achieving water self-sufficiency by 2023.

SWIP's 1.5 million gallon cistern will be fed by the Pico/Kenter Stormdrain during rain events, as well as by wastewater that has been purified through an advanced water treatment process by the sanitary sewer system. Water produced by SWIP will complement the existing recycled water distribution network for non-potable uses and to replenish vital groundwater resources. SWIP connects to a larger network of recycled water resources. It will connect to the recently completed Clean Beaches Project cistern located near the Santa Monica Pier, which collects runoff from Downtown Santa Monica. Together, the projected output from both projects will total up to 1,680 acre-feet of new water annually, or roughly the amount of water 2,200 average California households would use in a year.

The investment in SWIP provides a sustainable and drought-resilient water supply and reduces the environmental impact of importing water, which requires high amounts of energy to pump and transport from Northern California. Additionally, SWIP reduces pollution to the Santa Monica Bay.

The project is financed through a Clean Water State Revolving Fund Ioan agreement with the California State Water Boards, and is funded by Iocal wastewater and the Clean Beaches and Ocean Parcel Tax Fund (Measure V). Construction began in January 2020 and is slated for completion in late 2022. For more information, visit SMgov.net/SWIP.

CITY HALL EAST OPENS WITH 50TH EARTH DAY TRIBUTE

anta Monica's Historic City Hall is placing the finishing touches on City Hall East. Please join us to celebrate Earth Day and the opening on April 22 at 3 p.m. at 1685 Main Street. City Hall East will be a peerless municipal building; an annex that marks a shift toward regenerative design where buildings are beneficial to its inhabitants and surroundings, and produce the energy and water required to operate itself. City Hall East, is an expansion and consolidation of core municipal operations into one campus, both demonstrating sustainability leadership on a global scale and is a central place to carry out the community's work, and serves as an essential public safety services center in the event of an emergency.

The new project brings together about 240 City staff currently housed in eight separate private leased spaces spread throughout Santa Monica. The new public counter will combine nearly all types of permits and fee payment functions into one location, streamlining operations and making it easier for the public. The counters for bus pass, parking permit, and parking ticket payments will remain off-site at the GoSaMo Center at 1444 4th Street, near Broadway.

City Hall East is designed to meet Living Building Certification standards which specifies net-zero energy and water, meaning the buildings must produce as much as they consume, in addition to other environmental criteria.



City Hall East places buildings and the built environment squarely into the forefront of the work to achieve community-wide carbon neutrality by 2050 or sooner, water self-sufficiency by 2023, and zero waste by 2030. Buildings currently consume large amounts of natural resources community-wide.

City Hall East was financed with lease revenue bonds, and the lease savings are projected to exceed the cost of financing construction in 16 years. The building's useful life is 100 years or more, so the remaining 70 plus years will save taxpayer funds by avoiding the annual cost of private lease agreements and their accompanying utility bills. The lack of utility costs and lower operations costs will provide significant benefits over the life of the building. For more information, visit SantaMonica.gov.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! APRIL 1ST IS NATIONAL CENSUS DAY



tarting this month, the U.S. Census Bureau will begin mailing information to households in preparation for the 2020 Census. That means very soon, Santa Monica – along with the Nation, State and County – will have an opportunity to do our part

to ensure a complete count of everyone living in the U.S. regardless of citizenship status, age, or criminal history. Check out our FAQ to help prepare you, your family, and your friends to respond in April.

Q: What is the Census?

A: The Census counts every living person in the U.S. every 10 years and is mandated by the U.S. Constitution. Census data is used to distribute more than \$115 billion in federal funding to California and determine the number of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Q: How do I respond?

A: You can respond to the Census by mail, telephone, or online.

Q: Will my information be protected?

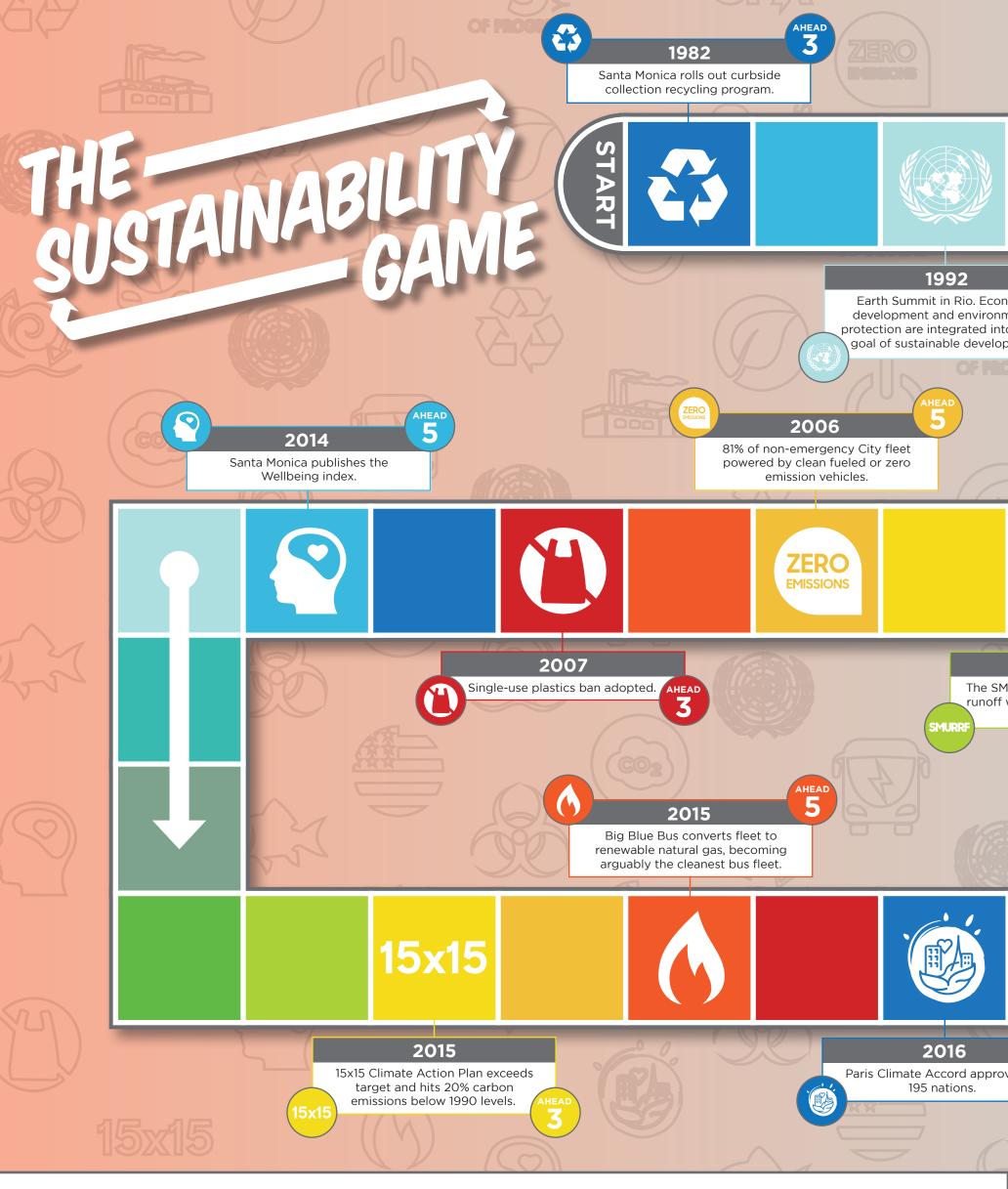
A: Federal law protects the data you give to the Census Bureau. It is against the law for anyone to share your information with other government agencies, courts, immigration enforcement, or the police. Your information is only used to generate statistics. There will be NO citizenship question on the 2020 Census.

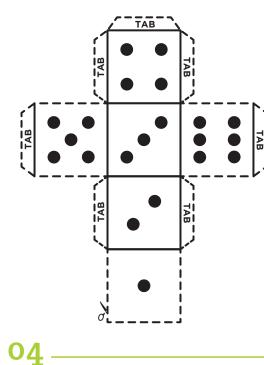
Q: What happens if I don't respond or if I skip questions?

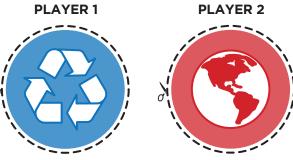
A: If you don't complete the Census or skip too many questions, Census Bureau staff will first try to contact you by phone, then follow up with a home visit if you do not respond. Follow-up will start in May and end in July.

Help Santa Monica Reach a Complete Count! The City formed a Complete Count Committee with volunteers from the community to help spread the word about the 2020 Census. It's not too late to help. Email Census2020@smgov.net to join!







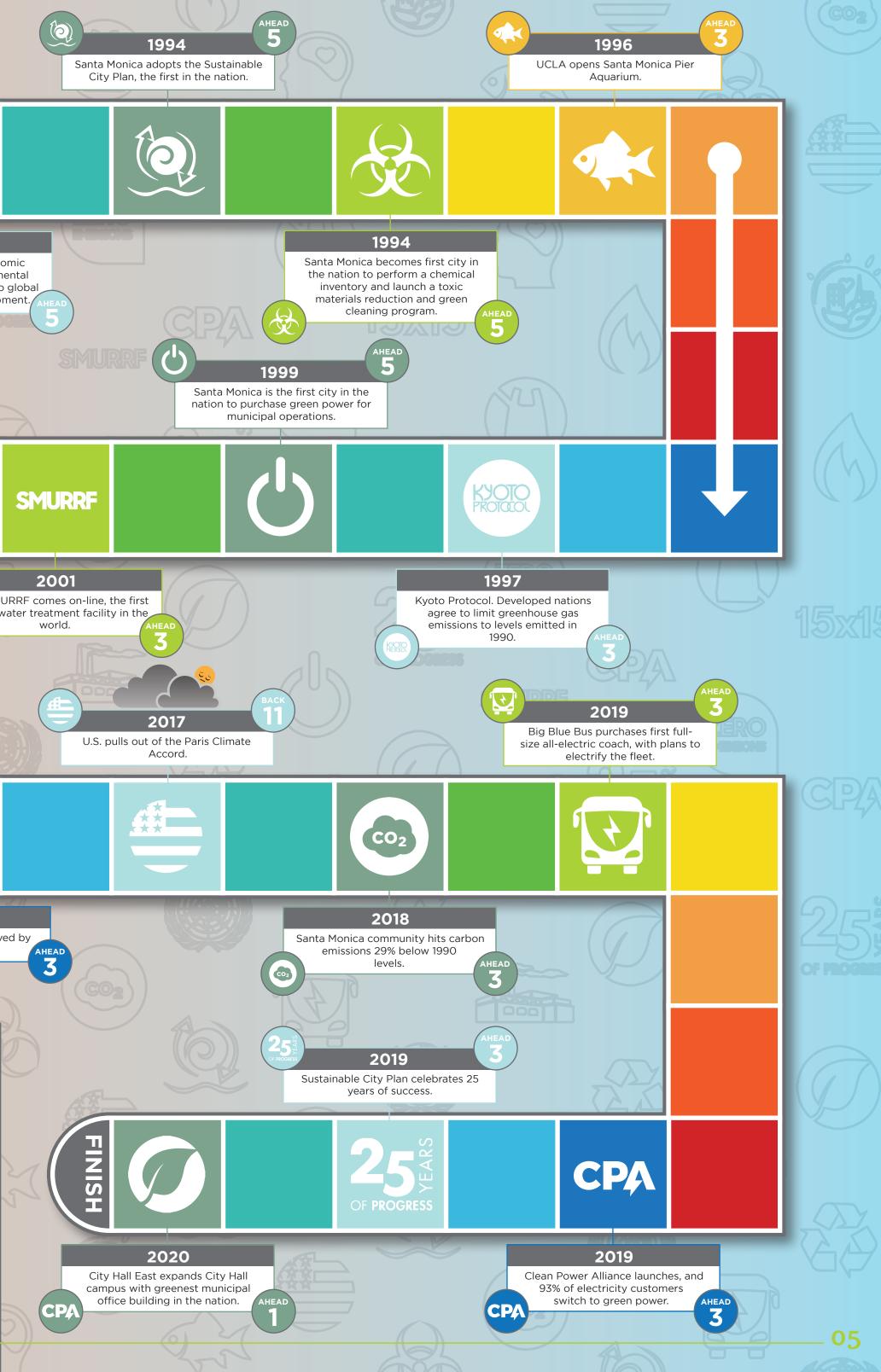


PAPER DICE ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Cut out the cube template along the dashed line.
- 2. Fold along the inside lines.
- **3.** Apply eco-friendly adhesive on one of the tabs.
- **4.** Apply eco-friendly adhesive to the tab behind the adjacent face.
- **5.** Apply eco-friendly adhesive to the rest of the faces together along the tabs following Steps 5 and 6 to form a cube.

HOW TO PLAY

- 1. Each player takes a turn rolling the die. The player that rolls the highest number goes first.
- 2. Player 1 rolls the die and moves their player disk the number of spaces indicated on the dice.
- **3.** After Player 1 takes their turn, Player 2 rolls the die and moves their player disk the number of spaces indicated on the die.
- **4.** When a player lands on an icon square, they may move ahead or behind however many spaces indicated in the info slide.
- **5.** The first player to reach the finish line wins.



PLANT-BASED FOOD DEMO

oin us for a special cooking demonstration in celebration of International Women's Day and the City's focus on Place and Planet. Market Chef Kim Vu will be cooking up plant-based recipes from famous female chefs, featuring produce from Anna's Family Farm (a female-owned and operated farm in Santa Paula, CA). Demonstrations take place at the Main Street Farmers Market, at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and 12 noon in the education tent, and include delicious samples for you to try and recipes for you to take home.

Free parking with proof of purchase and info booth validation at Parking Lot 5S, and 2600 Barnard Way (at the beach). Free bike valet always available on Main Street.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

Do you love food, farmers and fun? We have just the job for you! Volunteer with the Santa Monica Farmers Markets. Volunteers help with running the markets, youth "Veg-U-Cation", outreach, and seasonal events. For more information and to apply, visit SMgov.net/FarmersMarketVolunteer.



MORE THAN BRANCHES AND LEAVES: URBAN TREES



s you make your way around Santa Monica, chances are, you will pass by or go under one of the city's over 118,000 trees. Some are smaller, younger trees planted in the last few years, while others are older, larger sprawling trees. When you look up at them, you see what we usually associate with trees: branches and leaves. These aspects of trees are called urban tree canopy, or UTC. Also known as tree cover, UTC is the layer of branches, stems, and leaves of trees that cover the ground when viewed from above. UTC has several environmental benefits, such as improving air quality, providing wildlife habitat, reducing the temperate on a hot summer day, capturing stormwater, and can also help a community attract businesses and residents and increase property values.

In 2014, City staff used UC Davis and the U.S. Forest Service to assess Santa Monica's total UTC (both public and private trees) and found that it covered 21% of the City and varies across neighborhoods. To put this figure into context, one study several years ago estimated that tree canopy in urban areas across the U.S. averages 27%. This year, the staff aims to do another study, but with the goal of separating and learning more specifics about the tree canopy of private and public trees, which number over 35,000, while again looking at changes by neighborhood and land use. The results of this exciting study will be shared in the future.

For more information about Santa Monica's urban forest and to subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter, please visit SMgov.net/Landscape.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing and protecting women's constitutional right to vote. And for the 10th year now, the Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women (COSW) is collaborating with the City and local partners to commemorate, and highlight Women's History Month. The theme for 2020 is "Valiant Women of the Vote", which will be celebrated throughout the month of March.

We also invite you to participate in all Women's History Month events and activities at the public libraries, Chamber of Commerce, Memorial Park, Virginia Avenue Park and many others. For more information and the complete COSW's Women's History Month events calendar visit SMgov.net/COSW.

The Commission on the Status of Women works to ensure that Santa Monica is a place where women and girls can fully realize their potential and have a strong voice in all aspects of the community, including elections and the Census. This year, for the first time, look for the purple, white and gold colors of the suffrage movement lighting up Santa Monica City Hall the entire month of March. Simplified, the tri-colors signified loyalty, purity, and life.

Join us at the Opening Reception & Mayor's Proclamation Tuesday, February 25, 6 p.m. at East Wing of the Civic Auditorium



Los Angeles Marathon

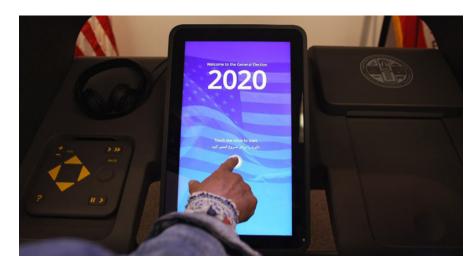
Santa Monica is the Finish Line





7 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT VOTING IN 2020

- 1. California Primary Elections were moved up from June to Tuesday, March 3, 2020.
- 2. The process for No Party Preference voters to request a party's primary ballot remains the same. More information can be obtained from the Los Angeles County Clerk's Office.
- 3. Voting by mail (VBM) remains the same. Ballots may be:
 - Turned in at a VBM drop-off location such as Santa Monica City Hall, Santa Monica Main Library or Fairview Library;



- Dropped off at any voting location in L.A. County on Election Day; or
- Mailed with no postage necessary.

(**NOTE:** In California, ballots postmarked by Election Day and received within 3 days by the LA County Clerk's Office will be processed, verified and counted.)

- 4. **The I Voted Sticker remains the same.** It will continue to be enclosed with VBM ballots or given at voting locations.
- 5. **The 10-Day Early Voting Period (in-person) remains the same.** It will be offered at select voting locations such as the Santa Monica Main Library, Joslyn Park, Marine Park, and Virginia Avenue Park. Early Voting Centers will be available throughout LA County.
- 6. Vote Centers (formerly Polling Places) can quickly accommodate any voter registered in Los Angeles County. Electronic rosters will allow election workers access to real-time voting data to look up pending/casted ballots or to process conditional voter registration forms. More Vote Centers will be available from 7 a.m. – 6 p.m. on Election Day throughout LA County.
- 7. New Ballot Marking Devices will now offer accessible and multilingual features. Voters will be able to use the device based on their needs and vote privately and independently.

For more information on the new voting experience, visit the LA County Clerk's Office at LAVote.net.

USING DATA TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY

anta Monica's women and girls are making positive strides in economic freedom and wellbeing, according to a new report produced by the City of Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women (COSW) and Mount Saint Mary's University. The report also meets the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms

of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) resolution adopted by City Council in 2015.

Women and girls are a majority of Santa Monica's population. Employment rates are high, and the gender wage gap has shrunk. Girls are graduating high school at higher rates than boys. The number of womenowned businesses in Santa Monica rose, and those 7,900 businesses generated \$1.26 billion for the City's economy.

But many gender gaps persist. Santa Monica women still earn 78 cents for every dollar male peers earn, with women of color earning significantly less, and 23% of Santa Monica's homeless population are women.

Santa Monica has worked to improve the lives of women and girls and the report recommends attention on housing, sexual assault and genderbased violence responses, and root causes of unequal opportunity in male-dominated fields. The report also recommends more robust and inclusive data collection practices. The COSW presents the Report to City Council on February 25th for Women's History Month and is available to download at SantaMonica.gov/blog/COSWDataReport.



PUBLIC MEETINGS

For updates, go to SMgov.net/Clerk or call 310.458.8411.

City Council Meetings

Commission of the Status of Women

Recreation and Parks Commission March 19 / April 16, 7:30 p.m. Thelma Terry, Virginia Avenue Park

March 10 and 24, 5:30 p.m. Civic Center East Wing April 14 and 28, 5:30 p.m. City Council Chambers

Airport Commission

March 23, 7 p.m. Civic Center East Wing April 27, 7 p.m. City Council Chambers

Architectural Review Board

March 2 and 16 / April 6, 7 p.m. Civic Center East Wing April 20, 7 p.m. City Council Chambers

Arts Commission

March 16 / April 20, 6:30 p.m. Ken Edwards Center

Commission for the Senior Community

March 18 / April 15, 1:30 p.m. Ken Edwards Center Ken Edwards Center

Disabilities Commission March 2 / April 6, 6:30 p.m. Ken Edwards Center

Housing Commission March 19 / April 16, 4:30 p.m. Ken Edwards Center

Landmarks Commission

March 9, 7 p.m. Civic Center East Wing April 13, 7 p.m. City Council Chambers

Library Board

March 5 / April 2, 7 p.m. Main Library

Planning Commission

March 4 and 18 / April 1 and 15, 7 p.m. Civic Center East Wing

Social Services Commission

March 23 / April 27, 7 p.m. Ken Edwards Center

Seascape is a publication of the City of Santa Monica, designed to inform residents about City programs and services. Please email comments to communications@smgov.net or mail to:

Seascape City of Santa Monica 1685 Main Street, PO Box 2200 Santa Monica, CA 90407-2200

Seascape is printed on recycled paper. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Seascape is available in alternate formats by calling the City Manager's Office at 310.458.8301

(TDD/TTY 310.917.6626).

MARCH/APRIL 2020 EVENTS

The City of Santa Monica offers more than a hundred events each month. Check out the entire list at SantaMonica.gov/Events and subscribe to the City's newsletter at SMgov.net/Newsletter.





18	
Master Gardeners at	
the Market	
9:30 a.m 1 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park	
SantaMonica.gov/	
FarmersMarket	
25 Paper Shredding/	
E-Waste/Mattress	
Recycling	
9 a.m 2 p.m.	
City Yards 2500 Michigan Ave	
SMgov.net/3Events	
ALL CLOSED EVERY	
FRIDAY, HOLIDAYS	
,	