

PROFILE



CITY COUNCIL

Councilmembers Bob J. Archuleta · David W. Armenta · Gustavo V. Camacho · Gregory Salcido · Brent A. Tercero

CITY OF PICO RIVERA MOST BUSINESS FRIENDLY CITY IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

The City of Pico Rivera has been awarded the “Most Business-Friendly City in Los Angeles County” by the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC).

Pico Rivera was a finalist along with the Cities of Arcadia, Azusa, and Rosemead for the award in the category of Cities under a population of 68,000. The LAEDC presented the award to City Administration during the 21st Annual Eddy Awards held last month.

The finalists were selected based on criteria including a demonstrated priority commitment to economic development; excellence in programs and services to facilitate business entry, expansion and retention; competitive business tax rates and fee structures; availability of economic incentives; and effective communication with and about business clients.

The City has made huge strides over the years to reach out to businesses and create an approach that is beneficial to both the City and the businesses. Local businesses also work with a newly dedicated Economic Development Division that was established in 2016, a division whose staff continues to take advantage of ongoing customer service training to meet the needs of the City’s businesses.



“We are proud to be the recipient of the coveted Eddy Award for Most Business Friendly City from the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation on behalf of our City Council, employees, community members and our loyal business stakeholders,” said City Manager René Bobadilla. “This prestigious Award reflects our resolute dedication in pursuing the recognition as a Business Friendly City through our quality customer service, expedited business processing and innovative strategies that produce results.”

City Manager Bobadilla continued, “This award is evidence of the City Council’s leadership and vision. Investing in best business practices has elevated our regional position as a diverse community that has prioritized economic development as a means to maintain and improve the quality of life of our residents and business

stakeholders. The City Council will continue to strive to engage in efforts that cement Pico Rivera as a leader in business development and a model for a business friendly City.”

For more information about the programs available for local businesses, log on to the City’s website at www.pico-rivera.org/bus.



SEACCA to provide Animal Licensing Needs

Effective January 1, 2017, the Southeast Area Animal Control Authority (SEAACA) will be providing animal licensing service to residents of the City of Pico Rivera.

The processing of resident’s animal licensing needs will shift from the City of Pico Rivera City Hall to the SEAACA offices located at 9777 Seaaca Street, in Downey. Pico Rivera City Hall will only accept license renewal mail on behalf of SEAACA



during City Hall hours. Your pet will keep its SEAACA Timeless Tag. SEAACA Timeless Tag fees are paid every fiscal year (July 1 - June 30). If you have lost your pet’s license tag, the replacement tag fee is \$3.00. Senior rates are available for any person over 62 years of age.

California state law requires all dogs over the age of 4 months to be licensed annually and to have a rabies vaccination valid for the entire licensing period. A valid license with current information also identifies the pet’s owner and allows them to be reunited with their pet in case they ever get lost.

A courtesy renewal letter will be mailed prior to your pets’ tags expiration. Please notify SEAACA Licensing Department by mail when the status of your pet changes (i.e. spayed/neutered, moved, change of ownership, deceased, etc.). Dog license fees are subject to change per City Council approval.

For your convenience, SEAACA offers a low-cost vaccination clinic at SEAACA Animal Care Center. The Clinic hours are Tuesday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturday from

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Clinic is closed on Sundays, Mondays, and major Holidays. Please bring your pet vaccination records from home when visiting the Care Center.

For more information about the Animal Licensing process, call SEACCA at 562.803. 3301.

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Pico Rivera, CA · 90660-1016

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CITY WELCOMES BUSINESS

The City recently helped welcome new business, Mariscos Choix, with a Grand Opening celebration.



MARISCOS CHOIX...Co-Owners Raul Gonzalez and Irwin Lopez stand in front of their new business venture located at 4233 Rosemead Boulevard.

As the City of Pico Rivera is now recognized as a Most Business Friendly City in Los Angeles County, City officials look forward to celebrating many more Grand Openings in 2017 as they continue their efforts to attract new businesses to the community.

Holiday Collection Schedule

There will be **no changes** to the collection schedule for the week of Christmas or New Year. All collections will take place on the normally scheduled pick up days. For more information, call NASA Services at 1.888.888.0388.

Safety During the Holidays

Hide it. Lock it. Or Lose it.

The holiday season is a special time of year. It's also a time when normally careful people might become careless and susceptible to crime. By taking some very simple precautions, and remembering to HIDE IT. LOCK IT. OR LOSE IT., you can ensure you and your loved ones have a safe, secure, and happy holiday season.

Here are some ways to keep yourself and your belongings safe:

If You Are Out for the Evening

- LOCK all entries. Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave, even if it's just for a few minutes.
- HIDE the gifts. Don't display gifts where they can be seen from outside.
- Turn on lights and a radio or TV so it looks like someone's home.

If You Are Shopping

- Stay alert and be aware of what's going on around you.
- Park in a well-lit space, and be sure to lock the car, close the windows, and hide shopping bags and gifts in the trunk.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash; pay with a check, debit card or credit card whenever possible.
- Deter pickpockets and purse-snatchers. Don't overburden yourself with packages. Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Put a wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket.
- Shopping with kids? Teach them to go to a store clerk or security guard if you get separated.

If You Are on Vacation

- Don't advertise your absence by leaving outgoing messages on your voice mail or email stating you will be out of town.
- Request free Sheriff's Patrol Checks by calling the Sheriff's Department at 562.949.2421 to request periodic checks while you're away.
- Notify neighbors that you trust about any persons who are authorized to check on your home while you are away.
- Give the impression someone is home by having a family member or neighbor collect your mail and newspaper on a daily basis. You should also put front and/or interior lamps on timers so they go on and off at night.
- Notify your security company of the dates you will be on vacation. Leave a phone number where you can be reached in case your alarm gets activated. Make sure all doors and windows are secure.
- Notify the Post Office to request a mail hold. Residents can pick up a form at the local post office and can have their mail held up to 30 days.

Protect Your Vehicle

- **HIDE IT.** Loading up on all those gifts is a sign of holiday shopping progress. But if packages are easily visible inside the car, your car has now become a likely target.
- **LOCK IT.** Always lock your vehicle and store all items out of sight. Breaking into an empty car isn't worth a thief's time. However, anything left in plain view - from holiday gifts to sunglasses, CDs, cell phones or briefcases - may tempt a thief.

- Help prevent your vehicle from being stolen by always locking your car and using anti-theft devices. And although it's cold, never leave your vehicle running while you run inside your home or a store - even if for only a minute or two.

After You Have Opened the Gifts

Burglars know that many households have new, and oftentimes expensive, items in their homes following the December holidays—especially items such as new computers, televisions, cameras and other electronic equipment. It is easy for burglars to figure out which homes to target by looking at the empty boxes that identify these new gifts in plain view with their other garbage. Avoid this by not leaving empty boxes in the alley or other garbage pick-up locations for several days at a time. Instead, break down any boxes you are throwing out, put them in garbage bags and place them inside a recycling bin. (In many cases, especially with computer equipment, you might consider keeping the boxes for safe storage, shipping or moving in the future.) Think about keeping broken-down boxes inside—in a garage, for example—until the evening before your regular garbage pick-up. Some burglars actually look inside garbage cans for evidence of holiday gifts.

Reducing crime in our community requires everyone's involvement. In addition to the following the tips above, residents are encouraged to report any suspicious activity to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Pico Rivera Station, by calling 562.949.2421 or 911 in an emergency.

Fire Protection Tips for a Happy Holiday Season



Many residents take pride in their holiday decorations, from exterior lighting to top notch Christmas tree decor. Remember to be safe while installing those decorations, especially when

dealing with electrical lights. Below are some tips from the Los Angeles County Fire Department to keep your home safe from fires during the Holiday season.

Holiday Trees - If putting up a fresh tree, select one with a sticky trunk and green needles that don't come easily off the tree. Keep your tree away from heat sources, including heater vents and fireplaces. Put the tree in a stand that can hold water and keep the stand filled at all times. Do not keep your tree up for more than two weeks. If

using an artificial tree, make sure it is flame retardant.

Decorations - Use only nonflammable decorations on your tree and around the house. Never put lit candles on your tree, and keep all open flame away from your tree.

Electrical Safety - Inspect your holiday lights for frayed or kinked wires, broken or cracked sockets and gaps in the insulation. Only use lights listed by an approved testing laboratory. If in doubt, replace them.

Do not overload electrical sockets with too many lights or appliances. Wires should NOT be warm to the touch. Don't leave lights on while unattended.

General Fire Tips - Never put tree branches or wrapping paper in the fireplace. If using lit candles as household decorations, make sure they are in stable holders and located where they can't be easily knocked over. Never leave lit candles unattended. Always have working fire alarms in every room of your home, and practice your home escape plan.

PROFILE

Editor Gabriel Castorena
Layout & Design Gabriel Daigle
Staff Writers Gabriel Castorena
 Carmela García
Photographers Gabriel Castorena
 Robert Moreno

The Pico Rivera Profile is produced by the City of Pico Rivera and is distributed to residents and businesses as an educational service. For information about the Profile contact the Media and Communications Division at 562.801.4217.

CITY HALL CLOSED

Th, Dec. 15 - Early Closure at 2 p.m.
 F, Dec. 16; M, Dec. 26; F, Dec. 30; M, Jan. 2 & 16; F, Jan. 13 & 27

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

City Council Meeting Tu, Dec. 13, Jan. 10 & 24, 6 p.m.
 at City Hall, 6615 Passons Blvd.
Planning Commission M, Dec. 5 & 19, 6 p.m.
 at City Hall, 6615 Passons Blvd.
 (*Date and location subject to change. Please call 562.801.4332 to confirm meeting dates)
Sister City Commission Tu, Dec. 20 & Jan. 17, 6 p.m.
 at City Hall (Small Conference Room), 6615 Passons Blvd.
Parks and Recreation Commission Th, Dec. 8 & Jan. 12, 6 p.m.
 at Parks and Recreation Building, 6767 Passons Blvd.

This Month on CTV

The Holiday Season brings the Annual Holiday Festival and Tree Lighting Ceremony. Watch live coverage of the Pico Rivera City Council meetings on Dec. 13 and Jan. 10 & 24 at 6:00 p.m. Also catch live coverage of ERUSD Board Meetings. Complete schedule at pico-rivera.org.

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My Solar Movement

by Armando Godoy-Velasquez - Senior Student at El Rancho High School

During the summer, I traveled by bus for more than an hour to attend two courses on solar electricity at the Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) Academy at Los Angeles Trade Technical College. After the five-week course, I learned the fundamentals of how solar modules worked and walked away inspired by innovation.

On Tuesdays after my courses, I would attend Generation 1st Degree-Pico (G1DPR) Rivera's Be A Leader Senior Boot Camp meetings. After hearing my enthusiasm about solar energy, the program's project manager encouraged me to create a sponsorship proposal to bring the "green initiative" to Pico Rivera. The proposal highlighted how an after school program for middle school students could plant a seed on the importance of solar energy, and create the same feelings of innovation I experienced in the STEAM Academy when I first assembled my own solar-powered phone charging station.

Jacki Cisneros from G1DPR awarded the sponsorship and in October, I taught my first solar energy workshop to 15 middle-school students. I created small, unit-based projects that provide students with exposure to solar energy. With support from my LA Trade Tech professor, I show students in the program how to wire panels together, connect them to appliances and power other items using solar energy.

While I know there is still a long way to go, being able to spark conversations about solar energy and its importance within my community feels like a start to something exciting.

Armando is a senior at El Rancho High School. His solar Workshops take place once a month at the STEAM Academy at Burke Middle School; from 4 p.m to 6 p.m. Class is limited to 20 students on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, contact mandov029@gmail.com or Mr. Parra in room 4.



Pico Rivera Joins State in Plastic Bag Ban



The fate of the first statewide single-use plastic bag ban has been settled by the voters. With 100 percent of the votes counted, Proposition 67 had 56 percent of the "yes" votes in favor of the ban, which was originally passed by the state legislature as SB 270 in 2014.

Pico Rivera residents are reminded that the City's ban is modeled after the State approved ban and will require shoppers to bring their own bags and prohibit grocery stores, drugstores and convenience stores from distributing single-use plastic bags and require a minimum 10-cent charge on recycled paper bags.

The purpose of the regulations is to reduce the impact of disposable bags on the City and the environment. A charge per bag has been shown to reduce the number of disposable bags used. This ordinance will reduce litter and waste, reduce contamination in recycling and composting programs, and improve water quality by reducing pollution. As of today all cities in California are covered by similar laws.

The experts estimate that before the ban, families were taking home an average of 10 thin plastic bags every time they shopped with an annual average of 1,000 bags. It is estimated that annually 15 billion bags were being distributed in California alone. Residents are encouraged to use reusable bags which will be available for purchase at all stores.

With the ban in place, the common concern for many residents is remembering to bring those bags into the store. The main trick is to care. Aside from knowing that for every plastic or paper bag you don't use, you're helping the environment.

The following 8 tips can help you master the bag ban like an expert:

1. Keep various reusable bags in your vehicle trunk. If you're completely new to bringing your own bags, it may help to begin by keeping a bag on the passenger seat or in plain sight as a reminder.
2. After unloading groceries, bring the bags immediately back to the trunk or place them near your exit so you'll remember to grab them the next time you leave the house.
3. Place additional reusable bags in locations you may pass on your way out of the house, such as the pantry, coat closet, etc.
4. Most reusable bags are larger and can hold more than typical single-use plastic bags, making loading and unloading more convenient as you have less to carry and fewer trips from the car to the kitchen.
5. Designate certain bags for groceries, such as fruits and veggies, dry goods and frozen foods, while designating other bags to items such as cleaning supplies, personal hygiene items, etc.
6. Use a spray bottle mixed with equal parts rubbing alcohol to water and spray bags as needed to keep them germ free. Some bags can even be washed with laundry.
7. Instead of using single-use plastic bags for pet waste, purchase biodegradable bags from local pet stores or online.
8. When giving a gift to someone, use a reusable tote in place of a gift bag or wrapping. This costs less than most gift wrap.

For further information call Raymond Chavez of the Community and Economic Development Department at 562.801.4388.



Upcoming Library Events

The Pico Rivera Library will be offering Adult 101, a Life Skills Boot Camp for Teens Anime Style. Get prepared for adulthood by learning important skills through anime and manga.

The following programs are free and for teens ages 11 to 19:

Dining Etiquette 101

Saturday, December 17 - 2:00 - 3:30PM

Sebastian is a devil of a butler and a stickler for etiquette. Learn formal dining etiquette and enjoy an afternoon of *Black Butler* anime and manga.

Social Media Savvy

Saturday, December 24 - 2:00 - 3:30PM

Technology can be dangerous; just ask Kirito and Asuna from *Sword Art Online*. Join us for an afternoon of *Sword Art Online* anime and a discussion about safely handling social media.

The Library will also be hosting a selection of Holiday themed events during the month of the December.

For ages 3-12:

Holiday Creative Kids Storytime

Tuesdays, December 13 & 20, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Join us to listen to holiday stories and create an art project inspired by the books! After, check out the books to read again at home.

For children ages 0-4 and their adult caregiver:

Holiday Baby/Toddler Storytime

Mondays, December 12, & 19, 10:30 - 11:15 a.m.

You and your baby/toddler are invited to a fun-filled, educational storytime full of stories, fingerplays, action rhymes, songs, dancing, and art activities! On December 12, Santa Claus will be joining our storytime to read us a jolly story or two!

Holiday Cookie Decorating for Teens

Wednesday, December 21 - 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Teens are invited to join us to decorate cookies for the holidays and making gifts for the family. Don't forget to check out our wide array of cookie and holiday cookbooks!

The Pico Rivera Library is located at 9001 Mines Avenue. For more about Life Skills Boot Camp or the Holiday programs, call the Library at 562.942.7394.

Fair Housing Workshop

Residents who rent housing in the City of Pico Rivera are invited to a Housing Rights Workshop on Wednesday, February 22, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Pico Rivera City Hall Council Chambers, 6615 Passons Blvd.

Presented by the Housing Rights Center, this free Workshop is designed to inform and educate community members on fair housing

laws as well as how to recognize and prevent housing discrimination.

Other topics include tenant/landlord rights and responsibilities, rent increases, evictions and notices. Information about services and resources offered by the Housing Rights Center will also be available.

For more information or to RSVP, call 800.477.5977, extension 1102.

