

# TimesOC

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021 /// Times Community News publication serving Orange County /// [timesoc.com](http://timesoc.com)

## Anaheim, county crack down on taco pop-ups

A new pilot program impounds equipment of unpermitted sidewalk food vendors in the city.

BY GABRIEL SAN ROMÁN

A sidewalk taco stand in Anaheim found itself caught in the crossfire of a carne asada crackdown one recent night when code enforcement pulled up.

It wasn't completely unexpected. Backed by county health officials, they made good on a past warning: if the *taqueros* popped up again to sell food without a permit, equipment would be impounded.

"We're not doing anything wrong," Roberto, the pop-up's owner who feared using his real name, recalled pleading.

He had good reason to believe so.

Ever since this summer, pop-up *taqueros* have set up on sidewalks across Anaheim, their spotlights and grills billowing fragrant smoke drawing dozens of eaters every night and thousands of hungry followers on social media. But this budding scene has also led to a steady stream of complaints.

"Please don't let Anaheim become East Los Angeles or Compton with vendors on every street corner," read a recent complaint obtained by TimesOC. "This city is known to be a safe and clean city and we hope it stays that way."

As a result, city officials began to meet with the Orange County Health Care Agency in September. The county holds greater authority over unpermitted food vending. Anaheim code enforcement keeps a more watchful eye on the city. The two decided to team up.

A pilot program, the first of its kind in the county, launched in October. Unpermitted stands are now subject to confiscations with greater efficiency.

The night Roberto learned that firsthand, code enforcement took pictures of his *taqueros*, cooking equipment and the license plate of his van.



Gabriel San Roman

HECTOR "GUERO" GARCIA grills carne asada at Taquería El Puerto, a permitted taco trailer.



CO-OWNER

Michael Alvarado stands under the sign at Tacos Los Cholos at the Anaheim location on Tuesday.

Don Leach  
Staff  
Photographer

Health officers then confiscated almost all of his property.

"They threw away all of the food too," he added.

But not before issuing another warning. If the taco stand returned, health officers would confiscate equipment again.

As part of Anaheim's current pilot program, code enforcement teams with 17 assigned county environmental health specialists two days a week, every week. There are also evening patrols at least two days a month, especially on weekends.

Since the program began, the city has received 221 complaints about sidewalk food vending. Code enforcement has handed out

31 violation notices during that time. The county has carried out 32 equipment confiscation actions.

The program will continue through the end of the year before being reevaluated.

"Unpermitted food operations ... operate outside of the food safety laws and regulations," said Darwin Cheng, assistant director of the Orange County Health Care Agency's environmental health division. "This poses a public health concern and food safety risk to the community."

"Our partnership with the county reflects that shared concern that we both have," said Mike Lyster, Anaheim spokesman. "What we see in some

cases is grease dumped into a storm drain and leftover food discarded in planters. We've had complaints about somebody tapping electricity at a nearby building. I think we can all agree that's not the right way to go about this."

It's the latest clash in a decades-long fight over street vending in Anaheim, which has seen the city pass multiple ordinances banning street vendors — and street vendors suing for the right to sell.

"You see *taqueros* now in most of the cities," Roberto said. "We found this little corner right here in Anaheim and said let's give it a try."

See **Taco**, page R4



Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

JUANEÑO SPIRITUAL leader Adelia Sandoval, second from left, laughs with guests as they sing and dance during dedication and opening of the new Putuidem Village.

## First people of O.C. preserve piece of land

For several years, the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians fought for an area dedicated to their culture and history. Despite delays, the Putuidem Village park has opened in San Juan Capistrano.

BY BEN BRAZIL

A few years ago, Adelia Sandoval sat at the foot of an old oak tree and pondered the resilience of her people, the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians.

The spiritual leader and her tribe, considered to be the original people of Orange County, had been fighting for years to preserve a small portion of the land surrounding the old oak. The Mother Tree, as she called it, was rooted to the grounds of one of the first Native American settlements in what became Orange County, the 65-acre Northwest Open Space in San Juan Capistrano. With several delays from the city, tribal leaders had questioned whether the land would ever be preserved.

But Sandoval contin-

ued to show faith in her people. "Resilience is in our nature," she had said.

On Friday, her faith was rewarded when hundreds showed up to the grand opening of the Putuidem Village, a humble 1.5-acre passive park that honors the history of the Juaneño.

It was clear during the ceremony that the land holds deep meaning for the Juaneño, whose sacred sites and lands had been plundered, desecrated and devoured by development.

The Acjachemen descendants, whose history traces thousands of years, became known as the Juaneños after Spanish colonialists built Mission San Juan Capistrano in 1776. Today, there are about 1,900 members in the tribe.

See **Park**, page R2



NATIVE

AMERICAN storyteller Jacque Nuñez leads guests in a traditional song.

## Santa Ana opens a winter wonderland, complete with ice rink

BY SARAH MOSQUEDA

It's beginning to look a lot like the holidays in Santa Ana, thanks to the first Santa Ana Winter Village.

"The Winter Village will provide a fun, healthy outdoor activity that our community greatly deserves after the past two years," Santa Ana Mayor Vicente Sarmiento said.

The Winter Village opened on Wednesday, had its grand opening event on Thursday, and will remain open until Jan. 2.

The main attraction of this month-long celebration is an outdoor ice-skating rink, located near Santa Ana City Hall at the Civic Center Plaza, with parking at 601 N. Flower St. Additional park-

ing can be found in the parking structures surrounding 4th Street.

Visitors to the Winter Village can rent ice skates and participate in a very atypical Southern California winter activity.

Tickets for a 90-minute ice-skating session are available for guests ages 3 and up, with general admission \$12 for adults and \$8 for kids (ages 3 through 12). Tickets can be purchased in advance for a reserved day or time at [santa-ana.org/winter-village](http://santa-ana.org/winter-village), but a limited number of tickets will also be available to walk-up guests each session, with discounted admission offered to Santa Ana residents on Mondays (\$10 for adults, \$5 for kids.)

See **Winter**, page R4



TWO SKATERS

hold hands at the Santa Ana Winter Village ice skating rink in downtown Santa Ana at the Civic Center Plaza on Tuesday.

Don Leach  
Staff Photographer

## A Surf City Holiday Favorite Since 1961

AFFINITY & CO. JEWELERS • AT&T • BANK OF AMERICA • BATH & BODY WORKS • BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS  
CHASE BANK • CHICO'S • CLOUDMOVER DAY SPA • DISCOVERY SHOP • DUCK DONUTS • GAP, GAPKIDS & BABYGAP  
GLITZ NAIL BAR • GLOBAL VISION OPTOMETRY • HASHIGO SUSHI • KAHOTS PET STORE • LEMON THAI CUISINE  
MARIO'S MEXICAN FOOD & CANTINA • OMAHA STEAKS • PHENIX SALON SUITES • R&B TEA HOUSE  
RED EFFECT INFRARED FITNESS • SALON CHAMPAGNE • TILLY'S • TIMELESS TREASURES BOUTIQUES  
TITANIUM TICKETS • TRADER JOE'S • THE UPS STORE • VANS • YOGURTLAND • ZUMIEZ

Timeless Treasures Boutiques Pop-Up Event: December 16 - 22



5 POINTS PLAZA

MAIN @ BEACH BLVD • HUNTINGTON BEACH • 5POINTSPLAZA.COM





# Holdout unions vote to OK contract, avert strike

BY GABRIEL SAN ROMÁN

Disneyland heads into the holidays without any picket lines outside its gates following a second contract vote that finally found favor with two remaining unions.

The Master Services Council, a coalition of four major unions that represents 9,500 workers at the Disneyland Resort, bargained with the company for months before reaching a tentative agreement in November.

All member unions ratified the contract at Disney's California Adventure during the initial Nov. 17 vote, but Disneyland saw an unprecedented split.

Teamsters Local 495, which is the largest member of the coalition, and Service Employees International Union-United Service Workers West soundly rejected the company's proposal at Disneyland, which included pay raises to \$18.50 an hour by 2023 and seniority-based bonuses.

The holdout unions represent ride operators, parking and custodial staff respectively at the theme



Chris Carlson / Associated Press

**THE HARBOR BOULEVARD** entrance to the Disneyland Resort in Anaheim.

park.

Union leaders met with the company, which agreed to present its "last and final" offer for another round of voting, though it wasn't obligated to. After all the votes were tallied by Dec. 3, both unions ratified the contract and averted a strike.

"The Disneyland Resort is pleased that cast members of the Disneyland Park represented by the Master Services Council ratified a new collective bargaining agreement," said a Disneyland spokesperson. "Cast members from Disney California Adventure Park and Down-

town Disney District previously ratified the same offer on Nov. 17th. We are proud of the competitive wage and benefit offer, which provides historical increases over three years, continuing to outpace the California minimum

See **Unions**, page R4



Ana Venegas

**A SUNSET OVER** the San Clemente coast. The city's pier could be vulnerable to rising sea levels.

## San Clemente approves coastal resiliency plan

BY BEN BRAZIL

With rising sea levels potentially wreaking havoc on California coastlines in the decades ahead, San Clemente officials this week approved a Coastal Resiliency Plan to address shoreline erosion, coastal flooding and other consequences of potential rising sea levels.

The plan is part of the city's Local Coastal Program, which is partly funded by the California Coastal Commission and is required for all California

coastal cities and counties. It is meant as a planning document to guide the city toward fortifying itself against a potential rise in sea levels expected as the effects of climate change worsen.

The City Council unanimously approved the plan on Tuesday night following very little discussion.

The approval comes after a six-week period when the public was able to submit comments to the city.

See **Coastal**, page R5

# TimesOC

A Times Community News publication serving Orange County

**CONTACT US**

**Erik Haugli**  
Deputy Editor  
erik.haugli@latimes.com

**Raymond Arroyo**  
Advertising Director  
(714) 966-4608  
ray.arroyo@latimes.com

**Online**  
timesoc.com  
**Social Media**  
@timesocofficial

**Address**  
10540 Talbert Ave.,  
Suite 300 West,  
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

**Business Office**  
(714) 966-4600

**Newsroom**  
(714) 966-4699

**Email**  
dailypilot@latimes.com

**TCN Classifieds**  
800-234-4444

**TCN Legal Phone**  
888-881-6181

**TCN Legal Email**  
LALegal@tribune.com

**COMPANY INFO**  
TimesOC is published Sundays by Times Community News, a division of the Los Angeles Times. Subscriptions are available only by subscribing to The Times, Orange County.

© 2020 Times Community News. All rights reserved.



Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**GUESTS WALK** under the canopy of the Mother Tree at the new Putuidem Village.

## PARK

Continued from page R1

While leading a prayer at the event, Sandoval thanked tribal leaders, city officials and employees and community members who supported the tribe's efforts through the years.

"You gave us strength and courage through the ups and the downs and the ins and the outs. You sent the sacred winds to join with us today as we celebrate this opening of Putuidem Village park, a place that honors our grandmother, Coronne and our mother village Putuidem, the village of the Acjachemen people," said Sandoval, referencing the Acjachemen's first female chief.

"Bless all the life that is here, Creator — every tree, every plant and every creature. We ask you to bless all those that step foot on this place, on this land. Bless the elders and the storytellers who will teach, and the young ones who will come to learn about the beautiful people. People of peace, who lived and thrived here. Who live and thrive here."

Sandoval and others spoke in the park's small amphitheater, which is surrounded by boulders and log seats. The park also includes a trail and various depictions of the Juaneño way of life, including ramadas, kiichas — a thatch home — and manos — a ground stone tool. The surrounding areas of the park are a native plant habitat.

Signs along the trail recount the history of the Acjachemen descendants.

"European colonization and American settlement forever changed our cultural life at Putuidem, fracturing families and traditions," one of the signs reads.

"Over the years, our numbers were severely diminished from the impacts of new and differ-



**JUANEÑO SPIRITUAL** leader Adelia Sandoval, center, leads guests in a prayer with tribal member Jerry Nieblas, left, and Native American storyteller Jacque Nunez.

ent residents and governments. And yet, our people endured. We remain a viable community today."

Mayor John Taylor said the park is "a testament to what makes San Juan Capistrano special."

Jerry Nieblas, a descendant of the Juaneño, said during a speech that the land is "like gold" to him and the oak still stands as proof of the resilience of the Juaneño.

Oak trees are special to the Juaneño tribe because ancestors used the acorns as food.

"In back of you is the great grandmother oak," Nieblas said to the crowd. "She represents our people. She represents our strength and endurance. Everything around this great oak has died off, has been removed, has collapsed, has failed. But the great oak goes on. It goes on just like our people go on. We endure. We go on."

The Putuidem Village was seen as a long-sought tribal victory when the City Council first approved the educational park in 2016.

But in ensuing years, the city delayed the project, and tribal leadership questioned whether the park would ever be completed.

Though it was expected to be opened as early as 2019, the Putuidem Village was stalled by various financial obstacles. The first came in 2018

when the city found that it lacked the funds to pay for the annual maintenance. Once that was resolved, construction bids exceeded the budget.

Then the city went back to the drawing board to put together a scaled-down version of the park. The city worked with a committee of Juaneño members — the Putuidem Committee — to revise the park. Construction of the park began in late fall 2020.

Tribal leaders have said that the park will be an important tool for educating the public and a vital gathering place for tribal members, where they could perform important ancient rituals. Some tribal members have been waiting for a piece of dedicated land like the park for decades.

One of those tribal leaders, Jacque Nuñez, said during her speech that she will no longer have to tell children to imagine the original village's dwellings.

"Never again, because when they come here, they will see it," Nuñez said. "And I don't have to say, 'Imagine that you're on the soil that your ancestors walked on.' ... When they come here, they will know that they are stepping on the land that our ancestors stepped on. That's glorious, isn't it?"

benjamin.brazil@latimes.com  
Twitter: @benbrazil

**Dec. 17-18**  
**8 p.m.**

**PACIFIC SYMPHONY POPS**  
Underwritten by the Sharon and Tom Malloy Family

# Midtown Men Holiday

Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

Reuniting stars from the Broadway smash hit "Jersey Boys," the Midtown Men deck the hall with festive cheer, top-shelf choreography and incredible vocal performances! Featuring yuletide classics such as "Winter Wonderland," and "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" as well as rock-and-roll hits of the 1960s.

**GIVE THE GIFT OF MUSIC**

(714) 755-5799  
[PacificSymphony.org](http://PacificSymphony.org)

**OFFICIAL SPONSORS**

AVENUE OF THE ARTS  
COSTA MESA

TRIBUTE PORTFOLIO

**PACIFIC SYMPHONY PROUDLY PERFORMS AT**

Renée and Henry Segerstrom  
Concert Hall  
615 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa

Segerstrom Center for the Arts

**STAY CONNECTED**





# *Christmas at Mariners*

**Join us for Christmas at Mariners Church and experience the wonder, beauty, and hope of the season.**

The Christmas story was prophesied by prophets and preached by apostles, and “angels long to look into these things.” Why? Because the angels don’t know the joy of being redeemed. The mystery of Christmas is personal and glorious for us. Get more than a glimpse of this incredible truth this year at Christmas at Mariners.

Join us for candlelight services at any of our locations throughout Orange County.

**[marinerschurch.org/christmas](https://marinerschurch.org/christmas)**



# TACO

Continued from page R1

Only, the city's sidewalks have been mostly clear of street vendors for a reason.

In 1986, the city banned vendors from operating in apartment areas. A vending law passed that same year lifted the ban in favor of heavy regulations, but still prohibited *paleteros* from selling Mexican popsicles from pushcarts.

A task force formed to evaluate the ordinance three years later and split over key provisions like only allowing vendors to remain in a location for 30 minutes and keeping a complete ban on amplified sound. Vendors wanted an hour and criticized Anaheim's annual business licensing fees and insurance requirements as too expensive.

In the years that followed, Anaheim limited vendor trucks to 15 minutes of stationary time. Back when it had the authority, code enforcement wrote up hundreds of violation citations, including notices for vendors to appear in court for not having a current health permit.

In 2018, Gov. Jerry Brown signed the Safe Sidewalk Vending Act, which decriminalized street vending under certain conditions.

Anaheim responded by adopting an ordinance that continued to ban street vending from the Anaheim Resort as well as the Platinum Triangle area during special event hours.

It shored up the city's dwindling authority to determine where street vendors are allowed to operate out of public health, safety and welfare concerns.

That's the balancing act where the pilot program finds itself.

Cheng noted that impounded equipment can be retrieved within 30 days after an office hearing is scheduled.

"When equipment is impounded, education is provided to the unlawful vendors on ways to operate legally," he added.

Anaheim doesn't want to be solely punitive in its approach, either.



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**THE POPULAR** Papa Loka and Taco Tuesday plates at Tacos Los Cholos in Anaheim.



**HECTOR "GUERO" GARCIA** stands outside of Taqueria El Puerto, a Sinaloa-style taco trailer that sets up in Anaheim on weekends.

Gabriel San Roman

A bilingual code enforcement fact sheet spells out what sidewalk food vendors need to have in order to be allowed to operate in legal areas: a vendor permit or business license from the city, a health permit from the county health department, a valid California Department of Tax and Fee Administration seller's permit and foodstuffs from an approved source or facility permitted by the county health department.

But Roberto said the path to permitted sidewalk food vending isn't quite so easy.

"They won't give you a permit for these type of carts," he said.

"They charge you for the process of getting a permit. Once inspection comes in

and looks at the stand, they don't approve it. So, you don't end up getting a permit and you lose your money."

Lyster reported that the city has six permitted sidewalk flower vendors but none where it concerns sidewalk food vending, which includes pushcarts, stands and wagons.

"When it's done right, we see it as an asset to the city," he added. "I just don't see how we would be in a position to decline anybody if they met all permitting requirements."

There's also the path of becoming a permitted food truck owner, which many pop-ups aspire to.

There was a stark difference between the two on a

recent Friday night.

Chatter on the street vending scene surrounded a taco stand having been flagged by the pilot program and told to disband without having their property confiscated. Less than half a mile away, Taqueria El Puerto operated out of a trailer parked outside a Goodyear Tire shop free from worry with a county health permit posted from its window.

"I know it's hard for some people to get situated with a lunch truck like this because it costs money," said Mitchell Garcia, Taqueria El Puerto's owner. "I have nothing against pop-up stands because I know everybody has to work and jobs are hard right now."

Garcia owned Cali 4 Tacos, a Bellflower brick-and-mortar, before the pandemic took it out of business. Taqueria El Puerto, his 3-month-old food trailer, serves up Sinaloa-style tacos with a *taquero* grilling meat over smoldering charcoal. The carne asada comes chunkier, fatty but not too greasy with every bite being smoky and savory.

"Police officers come and eat here, actually," Garcia said. "They say our vampiro tacos are really good."

The Costa Mesa resident hopes that the uniqueness of his Sinaloa-style offerings in Orange County will see Taqueria El Puerto graduate from trailer to food truck — or even brick-and-mortar — soon enough.

Tacos Los Cholos made the leap from pop-up to restaurant against the Anaheim odds.

Jose Maldonado and Michael Alvarado, two Anaheim friends, started the business in 2019, back when taco stands were a novelty in the city.

It quickly became a social media sensation. The newfound attention also extended to code enforcement, which tailed Tacos Los Cholos for months.

"Eventually, they caught up to us," Maldonado said. "They said, 'Shut it down or we won't give you guys a business permit when you do turn into a business.'"

Fortunately, a family friend who owned a restaurant in the city allowed Tacos Los Cholos to grill on-site. They saved money, bought half of the struggling restaurant and eventually took over the location last year.

Now, Tacos Los Cholos has opened a second restaurant in Fullerton.

A code enforcement file thicker than a stack of tortillas at City Hall proved the pop-up could've just as easily been folded down.

"Before we would set up, code enforcement would show up at our house waiting to see if we were going to be selling that day," Alvarado recalled. "It's just really tough out here. They're looking for any small thing to get you on."

With a spacious patio, tiered taco menu and a liquor license, Tacos Los Cholos doesn't see current pop-ups, even those that set up along the same stretch of State College Boulevard it occupies, as unfair competition.

But other businesses elsewhere in the city do.

"We appreciate anybody out there trying to make a living and being entrepreneurial," Lyster said. "At the same time, we have many brick-and-mortar restaurants. They've got extra costs that a street vendor won't have."

For out-of-town *taqueros* like Roberto, his home city of East L.A. is just too competitive for sidewalk food vendors, but that doesn't mean he undercuts brick-and-mortar taquerias in Anaheim.

"We price match to whatever tacos are going for," Roberto said. "We have to make our tacos not too expensive, not too cheap. Prices went up on meat. We have to compare and blend in."

Despite enforcement actions, Roberto set up in the same location on a recent weekend night; the pop-up cooked and sold \$2 tacos for hours without incident. The wintry weather has slowed business down, but as a caterer who endured the pandemic by becoming a warehouse worker, it's still a hustle worth his time, risks and all.

Roberto knows it's a long-shot, but he still hopes to be able to save up to run a properly permitted food truck, an expense he tallies at more than \$100,000. For now, every night his crew of *taqueros* gets to pack up their equipment without a visit from the pilot program is one step closer.

"The only thing that we want to do is work hard," Roberto said. "If we're not allowed to work and save up to be able to buy what we need so that they no longer harass us — by taking our equipment and throwing everything away — we end up starting again from the bottom."

gabriel.sanroman @latimes.com Twitter: @gsanroman2




RCFE: #306005908  
\*Terms & Conditions Apply



**Westmont of Cypress**  
inspired retirement living

**Independent & Assisted Living • Memory Care**  
**BRAND NEW LUXURY SENIOR LIVING**

# Making Spirits Bright

Join us for some Holiday Cheer! Join us at Wetmont of Cypress for an **Exclusive Preview** of our brand new senior living community!

Enjoy a selection of beverages and hors d'oeuvres while listening to live entertainment. Take a tour of our **model apartment homes** and **resort-style amenities.**

**Founder's Club Closing Soon!**  
**SAVINGS UP TO \$7,200!\***

\*Proof of vaccinations or negative COVID test within 72 hrs of visiting required.

**CALL TODAY TO RSVP by 12/13!**  
**(714) 252-7144**

4889 Katella Ave  
Cypress, CA 90720

[www.westmontofcypress.com](http://www.westmontofcypress.com)

# UNIONS

Continued from page R2

wage."

Initially, the first round rejection sent a wave of confusion through the park's workers.

Two other Disneyland unions, United Food and Commercial Workers Local 324 and Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers' International Union Local 85, also comprise the Master Services Council but didn't have to cast their ballots a second time.

In an update to its members, UFCW Local 324 cited a "large majority" having voted to approve the contract on Nov. 17. The company considered the union-specific tally to be a ratification.

Ahead of the rare revote, SEIU-USWW deemed the original proposal as the "highest general wage increases ever negotiated with Disney." And, although

members rejected ratification by 60% on Nov. 17, the tally fell short of the 75% needed to authorize a strike, per the union's Constitution and bylaws.

Another strike authorization vote would be needed. If workers did vote to go out on strike, they wouldn't be entitled to California unemployment insurance.

Meanwhile, some Teamster members renewed a push for wage increases to \$20 an hour that they'd hoped would have been part of the original offer.

"I feel that all of us at Disneyland deserve more," said Gabriel Ramos, a Teamster and Disneyland ride operator who voted no both times.

"Many people voted yes the second time because they saw that the union wasn't prepared for a strike, even though the majority of the members wanted to strike."

The Disneyland Resort's proposed contract remained identical. The min-

imum wage increase to \$17.50 an hour would be pulled forward to Nov. 17 instead of taking effect June 2022.

Had the unions rejected the offer for a second time, workers were told that seniority-based bonuses and the retroactive raises were poised to be scrapped.

But more than two weeks of uncertainty came to an end when both holdout unions changed course and ratified the contract in joining the rest of their Master Services Council counterparts.

The early pay raises are effective for both Disney theme parks.

Disneyland hasn't seen a major labor strike since 1984 when thousands of workers picketed outside of the theme park for 22 days in what remains the largest work stoppage in the theme park's history.

gabriel.sanroman @latimes.com Twitter: @gsanroman2

# WINTER

Continued from page R1

Santa Ana Winter Village will also feature other family-friendly activities, like a festive trackless train ride, story time with Mrs. Claus and an opportunity to meet Santa Claus on select days.

A stage is set up for live performances and the village also plans to offer holiday shopping and merchandise from specialty vendors and local community groups, as well as treats from local food trucks. The village is also set with mock buildings reflecting some of Santa Ana's landmarks, like the train depot.

The community event is part of the Revive Santa Ana pandemic recovery initiative, funded by the federal American Rescue Plan Act that hopes to "deliver both short-term and long-term health, financial, educational and other support to the Santa Ana community" according to the initiative's website.

Programs range from direct assistance programs to mental health recovery and critical infrastructure. In October, Revive Santa Ana



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**SKATERS ROUND** the turn at the Santa Ana Winter Village in downtown Santa Ana at the Civic Center Plaza on Tuesday.

hosted a 5k run and in November distributed \$6 million in prepaid Visa debit cards to households in the most impoverished areas of the city, through the Revive Santa Ana Resident Stimulus Program.

The Winter Village aims to stimulate the Downtown Santa Ana economy by bringing visitors to the city, while also providing a safe outdoor activity for the community to connect to this holiday season.

An official tree-lighting ceremony hosted by

Sarmiento along with other Santa Ana City Council members along with Anaheim Ducks Street Team and mascot Wild Wing took place on Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

"I invite all of our residents and neighbors to join us at the Winter Village, step out onto the ice and discover the many joys of downtown Santa Ana," Sarmiento said.

sarah.mosqueda @latimes.com Twitter: @SarahNMos





Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**VETERANS AND** officials gather during a groundbreaking at the proposed veteran cemetery site in Anaheim Hills.

## 'Flag One' unfurled at the proposed site of controversial vets cemetery

Following about a decade of contentious debate and political inaction, Orange County officials and veterans appear to be moving forward with a veterans cemetery in Anaheim Hills.

During a ceremonial groundbreaking on Wednesday, they unfurled a massive 30-foot-by-60-foot American flag, called "Flag One," that will tower over the proposed cemetery site.

For about a decade, veterans fought to have the cemetery constructed in Irvine, but local politicians couldn't agree on where it should be placed.

One of the areas considered in Irvine, called the ARDA site, was backed by some residents and former Irvine mayor and current Councilman Larry Agran.

Other officials, residents and veterans groups favored the construction of the cemetery on a piece of



**VETERANS AND LOCAL** city officials join to unfurl "Flag One" for the planned veterans cemetery in Anaheim Hills.

land in the Great Park that was once destined to be a golf course. Both sites were part of the now-defunct El Toro Marine Corps Air Station.

The ARDA site was chosen by officials in 2014. But in 2017, another site was proposed, with FivePoint offering a land-swap deal

that was eventually voted down by Irvine residents in the 2018 primary elections.

Later, the council voted to build the cemetery on land that was slated to be a golf course in the Great Park.

Last year, the council decided to support a citi-

zens' initiative to zone the 125-acre ARDA site for the cemetery.

But after an election and a mayoral change, sentiments shifted on the council. Late last month, all hope of an Irvine-based cemetery seemed lost when, after a lengthy meeting, the Irvine City Council couldn't come to an agreement.

All 34 Orange County cities have now expressed support for the Anaheim Hills site. The massive support for the site was evidenced at the groundbreaking as all five county supervisors attended along with city representatives.

The Veterans Alliance of Orange County, which has advocated for the cemetery, is in support of the Anaheim Hills site, as are all Veterans of Foreign Wars posts in the county and several American Legion posts.

— Ben Brazil

## COASTAL

Continued from page R2

San Clemente's Coastal Resiliency Plan is based upon the findings of the city's Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment, which was completed in 2019 to identify facilities and infrastructure that could be at risk due to rising sea levels.

A city report describing the coastal plan from Cecilia Gallardo-Daly, community development director, says that San Clemente is affected by several coastal hazards.

"Beach/shoreline erosion is an existing challenge faced by the city, and the region, and is anticipated to accelerate with [sea level rise]," the report says.

"In San Clemente, shoreline erosion is expected to continue to be the primary hazard affecting coastal resources, existing structures and critical infrastructure."

The damaging impact of sea level rise became all too real to the city in September when train tracks that carry Metro-link commuters and Amtrak travelers along the coast had to be temporarily shut down because large waves caused the ground to become unstable.

Gallardo-Daly's report says that the intertidal zone near the tracks are at risk of being permanently lost due to sea level rise.

Expensive beachfront communities are also at risk, with several multi-million-dollar homes and a clubhouse showing damage in the Cyprus Shores gated neighborhood around the time the tracks had to be closed down.

A project to replace sand on the city beach to protect the railway is in line to potentially receive about \$9.3 million in funding early next year.

The San Clemente Shoreline Project would also protect roads, buildings and other infrastructure. The funds are included in the 2022 Congressional budget.

The city's vulnerability assessment provided predictions on how the San Clemente coast would be impacted if the sea level rises to certain thresholds.

Without adequate intervention, the various structures on the city's beaches could become vulnerable to flooding and erosion at just .8 feet of sea level rise, including the pier and marine safety building, the report says.

At 3.3 feet, most sandy beaches will be eroded up to the railroad tracks, and at 4.9 feet, erosion could reach the coastal bluffs past the railroad tracks.

The erosion could also take a generous hit at the city's coffers, as San Clemente beaches host more than 3 million visitors a year and generate about \$87 million in annual spending, according to a 2013 study from the county, California State Parks and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Gallardo-Daly's report says that the city's resiliency plan will largely be based on monitoring the beach, shoreline and tides to identify indications that the shoreline is approaching the damaging thresholds. Then, the city will respond with mitigation efforts.

Some of the major recommendations in the plan include preparing a feasibility study to find critical erosion hot spots and start one or more pilot projects to help mitigate the erosion, such as creating a living shoreline, which involves strategically using natural materials to protect coastlines from erosion.

Other proposals in the plan include the creation of a Capital Improvement Program fund to allocate money toward coastal resiliency projects, reestablishing an ongoing annual shoreline monitoring program and creating a regional shoreline management group to "collaborate, cost-share and implement regional coastal resiliency solutions."

benjamin.brazil@latimes.com  
Twitter: @benbrazil

Where bright minds and big hearts come together.

 Providence  
Cancer Institute

Mission | St. Joseph | St. Jude  
[www.Providence.org/CancerOC](http://www.Providence.org/CancerOC)





# Holiday Luxury & Investment Sale

Find the perfect unique holiday gift for everyone in your life.

OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 10AM-5PM & SATURDAY 10AM-4PM



**1ct H color  
Flawless**  
Retail \$15,000  
Sale \$5,500



**1.115ct E, VVS2**  
Retail \$15,000  
Sale \$9,500



**1.34ct, E, VS**  
Retail \$16,000  
Sale \$7,950



**7.6ct H, I2**  
Retail \$35,000  
Sale \$19,500



**3.01ct, D, VS1**  
Retail \$40,000  
Sale \$27,500



**2.71ct, F, ST1**  
Retail \$37,500  
Sale \$19,950



**2.23ct, I, VS1**  
Retail \$36,000  
Sale \$17,000



**18K Yellow Gold  
Tennis Bracelet**  
20 ct Diamond, 77 gms  
Retail \$36,000  
Sale \$16,600



**18K White Gold  
Bracelet**  
13.18 ct, 28.5 gms  
Retail \$24,000  
Sale \$9,900



**18K Tiffany Bangle**  
125 gms  
Retail New \$20,000  
Sale \$9,250



**18K 12 carat  
Diamonds Bracelet**  
69 gms  
Retail \$25,000  
Sale \$9,900



**Platinum Art Deco Style  
Antique Bracelet**  
51 gms 8 carat Diamonds  
Retail \$25,000  
Sale \$8,750



**Hermes 32 cm  
Kelly Bag**

Internet Retail \$20K  
Mint Used Sale \$12,500



**Hermes 30 cm  
Crocodile Birkin Bag**

Internet Retail \$70K  
Mint Used Sale \$45,000



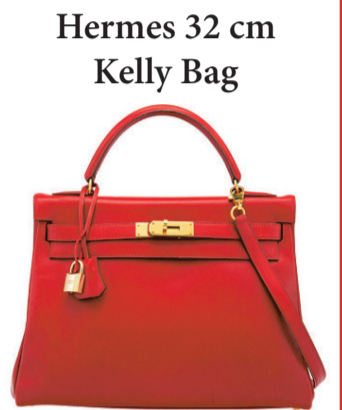
**Hermes 30 cm  
Crocodile Birkin Bag**

Internet Retail \$75K  
Mint Used Sale \$49,000



**Hermes 30 cm  
Ostrich Birkin Bag**

Internet Retail \$50K  
Mint Used Sale \$27,000



**Hermes 32 cm  
Kelly Bag**

Internet Retail \$15K  
Mint Used Sale \$7,950



**Art Deco Ring**  
18K Diamond & Sapphire  
2 carat DW  
Retail \$25,000  
Sale \$13,500



**18K 7.43ct Tanzanite  
& Diamond Ring**  
Retail \$11,000  
Sale Price \$5,500



**7 carat Emerald Ring  
with 2.7 ct Diamonds**  
Retail \$35,000  
Sale \$11,000



**21 Carat  
Diamond Necklace**  
15gms 18K  
Retail \$55,000  
Sale \$21,000



**Tiffany & Co**  
18K Ring  
22.9 gm  
Retail New \$7,500  
Mint Used Sale \$2,700



**Corum \$10 Gold  
Coin Watch**

New Retail \$10,000  
Sale Used \$2,995



**Breitling Bentley**

New Retail \$14,000  
Sale Used \$5,900



**Vintage Gold Rolex  
1969 Model 1002**

Retail \$15,000  
Sale Used \$8,995



**18K Breitling  
Ref K25362**

New Retail \$30,000  
Mint Used Sale \$14,750



**Rolex Explore**

New Retail \$14,000  
Mint Used Sale \$9,800



**U.S. Gold Eagle  
1 oz.**

Spot + \$89



**Canada Maple Leaf  
1 oz.**

Spot + \$49



**U.S. Gold Eagle  
1/10 oz.**

\$225 each  
(10) or more \$215



**Austrian  
100 Coronas**

Melt +  
\$20 per coin



**PAMP .999 Bars  
1 oz.**

Spot + \$75



**Silver U.S. Eagle  
1 oz Silver Coin**

\$32.95  
20 or more \$31 ea



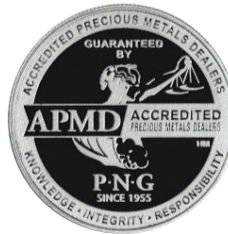
**Morgan Silver  
Dollar**

\$31.95  
20 or more \$31 ea



**1000 Ounce  
.999 Bar**

Melt/Spot  
+ \$1.10 per ounce



**Silver Round  
.999 1 oz.**

\$29.95  
20 or more \$27.50



**Kennedy  
50c**

\$12.50  
20 or more \$11.50

**Most Competitive Prices in the Country!**

Free Verbal Appraisals | 80% of our Buyers are Dealers!

Buy at Wholesale | Don't Pay Retail

Loans, Consignments, CASH Buyers

Coins • Old Currency • Old Scrap Gold & Silver • Estate Jewelry • Diamonds  
Earrings • Bracelets • Antique Items • Fine Art • Tiffany Lamps

949-205-7191

www.tii1.com

1910 South Coast Hwy  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651



Remarkable Performance. Personalized Transactions.

**TANGIBLE  
INVESTMENTS, INC.**

RARE COINS CURRENCY PRECIOUS METALS  
JEWELRY FINE ART & ANTIQUES

