

Neighborhood Improvement

Neighborhood Grants, Home Improvement Rebates, Neighborhood Cleanups and Graffiti Removal, Community Police Centers, Safety Programs, Shopping Cart Enforcement



Home Improvement Rebate Program

Property owners **Sheila Troiano** and **Anne Allen** spruced up their property at **1822 San Francisco Avenue** in the South Wrigley Neighborhood Improvement Strategy Area by using the Home Improvement Rebate program. Sheila and Anne paid \$2,950.00 to paint their building. The Home Improvement Rebate program, funded through **Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant and Redevelopment Set Aside Funding** issued a rebate for \$2,000.00, which is the maximum. With their investment of an additional \$950.00, the homeowners gave their property a fresh coat of paint and also painted the trim on their building.

Before



After



For more information, please contact **Karen Pruett** at **(562) 570-5131** or e-mail **Karen.Pruett@longbeach.gov**.

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North Long Beach Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) Area Neighborhood Clean-Up

On Saturday, July 10, 2010, staff from the **Neighborhood Services Bureau (NSB)** organized a neighborhood clean up within the **North Long Beach Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) Area**. The event took place at 6900 Muriel Avenue from 8:00 a.m. to noon.



Forty-Two (42) volunteers came out to support this effort. The volunteers, with the support of NSB staff, collected **nine (9) tons of trash, debris, and large items**.

For more information about the North Long Beach NIS Area, please contact **Chantara Nop** at **(562) 570-8280** e-mail **Chantara.Nop@longbeach.gov**.

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Hellman Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) Area North Alamitos Beach Association (NABA) Neighborhood Tree Planting

On Saturday, July 10, 2010, **NABA**, the **Neighborhood Services Bureau**, **Miracle on 4th Street Park** and the **Anaheim Street Community Police Center**, sponsored a neighborhood tree planting the Hellman NIS Area. The event took place from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and the meeting location was the Miracle on 4th Street Park at 1518 E. 4th Street.



This event was made possible through the **Neighborhood Services Bureau's Neighborhood Partners Program (NPP)**. NABA applied for the first time for the NPP grant and was awarded 35 new trees that volunteers planted in the area of Cherry Avenue to Almond Avenue and from 4th Street to 7th Street. **Twenty-six** volunteers took part in this community improvement effort. Additionally, **nine** community service workers assigned by the **City of Long Beach Prosecutor's**

Office community service program provided valuable support for the event. This event provided an opportunity for NABA and the area's residents to work together to improve the visual aesthetics of their neighborhood.

Special thanks to **Portfolio Coffeehouse** for providing coffee and pastries for volunteers, NABA board member, Neighborhood Leadership Alumni, **Mercedes Castellanos** for taking the lead role to apply and complete this neighborhood improvement project; **Aaron Jackson** and **JR White** who rented an auger to dig 35 holes in the neighborhood, **Jimmy Brashear** from **First and Elm Community Garden** who helped plant trees and dispose of leftover dirt and buckets, Neighborhood Services Bureau, NPP Grant Coordinator, **James Osgood** and Community Worker, **Ed Canseco**.



For information about the Hellman NIS area, please contact **Gonzalo Sanchez** at (562) 570-1114 or e-mail Gonzalo.Sanchez@longbeach.gov.

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Anaheim Street Community Police Center (APC) MacArthur Park/Whittier School NIS Area Neighborhood Clean up

A successful cleanup was held on Saturday, July 17, 2010. The **Anaheim Street Community Police Center (APC)**, Mr. **Chetra Keo** and residents living along the **1400 block of Walnut Avenue** sponsored a neighborhood clean-up in the MacArthur Park/Whittier School Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) Area.



The event took place from 8:00 a.m. to noon at 1451 Walnut Avenue. **Nine tons** of trash, debris and household furniture were removed from the area. **Twenty-seven (27)** residents and business owners participated in the event. They came out to work together to improve the physical appearance of their neighborhood.

For more information about the MacArthur Park/Whittier School NIS Area, please contact **Bryant S. Ben** at **(562) 570-1691** or e-mail **Bryant.Ben@longbeach.gov**.

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Hellman Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) Area Craftsman Village Historic District (CVHD) Graffiti Removal / Neighborhood Clean up

On Saturday, July 17, 2010, the **Craftsman Village Historic District (CVHD)**, and the **Anaheim Street Community Police Center (APC)** sponsored its monthly graffiti removal/neighborhood clean-up in the Historic District. The event took place from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at 1210 E. Hellman Street.

Thirty-two (32) community members took part in this community improvement effort. Additionally, **eight (8)** Community Service Workers assigned by the **City of Long Beach Prosecutor's Office Community Service Program** provided valuable support for the event. Volunteers erased graffiti, collected trash, debris and dumped items from the surrounding streets and alleys. One industrial size dumpster with **nine tons of trash and debris** was completely filled.

This event provided an opportunity for the area's residents to work together to improve the visual aesthetics of their neighborhood. **Four (4)** property maintenance violations were identified during the event and referred to the **Hellman NIS Area Community Code Enforcement Program (CCE)**.

For information about the Hellman NIS area, please contact **Gonzalo Sanchez** at **(562) 570-1114** or e-mail **Gonzalo.Sanchez@longbeach.gov**.

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Anaheim Street Community Police Center (APC) MacArthur Park/Whittier School NIS Area Monthly Neighborhood Meeting

On Tuesday, July 20, 2010 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Mark Twain Neighborhood Library, the **Anaheim Street Community Police Center** and the **MacArthur Park/Whittier School Neighborhood Improvement Strategy Area** hosted a monthly neighborhood meeting on “**Meet Your Commander Josef Levy**”.



Commander Josef Levy, newly appointed **Commander to the Long Beach Police Department’s West Division**, presented an overview of the division and area. The workshop gave an opportunity for community leaders and business owners to exchange information and discussion directly to the command staff and officers and learn how to work together for a better neighborhood. There were lengthy questions and answers from audience. **Seventy-eight (78) people** in the surrounding area attended the meeting with translation provided in Khmer and Spanish. Light refreshments were also provided for all at the meeting.

For more information about the MacArthur Park/Whittier School NIS Area, please contact **Bryant Ben** at **(562) 570-1691** or e-mail **Bryant.Ben@longbeach.gov**.

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Hellman Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) Area North Alamitos Beach Association (NABA) Neighborhood Clean up

On Saturday, July 24, 2010, **NABA**, the **Anaheim Street Community Police Center**, and residents living along the 400 block of Cerritos Avenue sponsored a neighborhood clean up in the Hellman NIS Area. The event took place from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at 410 Cerritos Avenue.

Thirty-four (34) volunteers took part in this community improvement effort. Additionally, **fifteen (15) Community Service Workers** assigned by the **City of Long Beach Prosecutor's Office Community Service Program** provided valuable support for the event. Volunteers collected trash, debris and dumped items from the surrounding streets and alleys. **One** industrial size dumpster with **nine (9) tons of trash and debris** was completely filled. This event provided an opportunity for the area's residents to work together to improve the visual aesthetics of their neighborhood. **Six** property maintenance violations were identified during the event and referred to the **Hellman NIS Area's Community Code Enforcement (CCE) Program**.

Special thanks to **NABA board members** and **Neighborhood Leadership Program Alumni, Tom Kroloski and Henry Salzer**, for providing valuable support and their truck to remove big items such as couches mattresses and furniture from the nearby alleys.

For information about the Hellman NIS area, please contact **Gonzalo Sanchez at (562) 570-1114** or **Gonzalo.Sanchez@longbeach.gov**.

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Hellman Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) Area North Alamitos Beach Association (NABA) Community Improvement Forum

On Wednesday, July 28, 2010, **NABA** and the **Anaheim Street Community Police Center (APC)**, held a monthly community improvement forum at the Long Beach Senior Center.

Guest speakers included: **Mary Antunez, LBPD, South Division, Community Oriented Policing Coordinator**, who provided South Division community safety update and information on crime trends. **David Woods, South Division, Code Enforcement Inspector**, provided a Hellman NIS Area **Community Code Enforcement (CCE) Program** monthly property maintenance update. Additionally, some of the other important issues discussed included speeding vehicles, Neighborhood Partners Program Grant tree planting and an upcoming Miracle on 4th Street Park and neighborhood clean-up.

This community improvement forum is part of APC's efforts to make the Hellman NIS Area safer and improve its livability.

For information about the Hellman NIS area, or NABA and CCE, please contact **Gonzalo Sanchez** at **(562) 570-1114** or **Gonzalo.Sanchez@longbeach.gov**.

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Lower West Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) area Neighborhood Clean up

A very successful clean up was held on Saturday, July 31, 2010 to eliminate trash and blight in the Lower West Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) area. This clean up was organized by the **Madres Unidas Group** and community members from the area, which consists of Census Block Group 5729.00 where 85% of the residents fall into the low/moderate income category. Event boundaries were from Santa Fe Avenue to the 710 Freeway and from Pacific Coast Highway to 20th Street. **Public Works Environmental Services Bureau** provided with a powered rear loader refuse truck to collect and compress illegal dumped items at the alleys between these boundaries and collected more than **nine tons** of trash. In addition, the volunteers identified some hazardous materials in an alley that might cause a fire. The **Department of Health and Human Services Hazardous Materials Unit** promptly came to collect more than **ten gallons of recycled oil**.

For more information, please contact **Teresa Gonzalez** at **(562) 570-1146** or **Teresa.Gonzalez@longbeach.gov**.

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NAG Meets The New Commander Wrigley Community Police Center (CPC)

The **Wrigley Neighborhood Action Group (NAG)** meets bi-monthly at the Wrigley CPC at 2023 Pacific Avenue. On July 15, 2010, Chair member **Annie Greenfeld-Wisner** introduced at meeting the new commander for the **Long Beach Police Department West Division, Commander Josef Levy**.

Commander Levy gave a brief introduction of his career and thanked the community for their support. He also addressed a few of the community concerns regarding illegal food vendors on the street of the neighborhood. Commander Levy let the community know about a recent drug bust operation on the 1700 block of Henderson Avenue where 117 pounds of ice (Methamphetamine) were removed from the streets worth \$2.2 million on the street market. He also mentioned a bust on the west side of Long Beach where wanted gang members were arrested.

Commander Levy asked for the community to help to report any suspicious activity because they are the eyes on the street. As an example, he shared that earlier that morning before the meeting police received a call from a resident regarding a suspicious person sitting in his car for long time on the corner of Eucalyptus Avenue and 21st Street that turned out to be in a stolen vehicle. The suspect was caught with the help of the police helicopter and K9 dogs.

The meeting included an update on the Pacific Corridor Lighting Project, which will be completed before Christmas, 2010. The following NAG meeting will be on September 17, 2010.

For more information about the Wrigley Community Police Center, please contact **Juan Bucio** at **(562) 570-1100** or e-mail **Juan.Bucio@longbeach.gov**.

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Hellman Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) Area Craftsman Village Historic District (CVHD) Graffiti Removal / Neighborhood Clean Up

On Saturday, July 17, 2010 **CVHD** in collaboration with the **Anaheim Street Community Police Center (APC)**, and the Neighborhood Services Bureau sponsored its monthly graffiti removal / neighborhood clean up in the Historic District. The event took place from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at 1210 E. Hellman Street.



Thirty-two community members took part in this community improvement effort. Additionally, eight Community Service Workers assigned by the City of Long Beach Prosecutor's office Community Service Program provided valuable support for the event. Volunteers erased graffiti, collected trash, debris and dumped items from the surrounding streets and alleys. One industrial size dumpster with Nine tons of trash and debris was completely filled.

This event provided an opportunity for the area's residents to work together to improve the visual aesthetics of their neighborhood. Four property maintenance violations were identified during the event and referred to the **Hellman NIS Area Community Code Enforcement Program (CCE)**.

For information about the Hellman NIS area, please contact **Gonzalo Sanchez at (562) 570-1114** or **Gonzalo.Sanchez@longbeach.gov**.

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Neighbors Plant Trees with Neighborhood Partners Program Matching Grant

On Saturday, July 10, 2010, the **North Alamitos Beach Association** completed a tree planting project planting **35** trees including crepe myrtle, purple leaf plum, pink dawn, and majestic beauty in their **Hellman** neighborhood. The project was completed with support from **Colonial Care Nursing Home** to maintain water trees near their facility. Volunteers met at Miracle on 4th Street Park and the project was led by neighborhood resident **Mercedes Castellanos**. Volunteers planted trees on Beverly Way, Nebraska Avenue, E. 5th Street, E. 6th Street, and Rose Avenue. The project included **5 sidewalk cuts** on Beverly Way in order to plant trees on a block that had no existing trees.

The project was completed with a **\$2,930 Neighborhood Partners Program** grant and leverage of several additional community resources for a total project valued at **\$6,647**. Community volunteers pledged **128 hours** to help plant and maintain the trees. Refreshments for the volunteers on the planting day included coffee and tea for volunteers donated by **Portfolio Coffeehouse** and pizza donated by **Encompass Global Logistics**. Additional community donations provided opportunity drawing prizes for volunteers.



The **Neighborhood Services Bureau's Neighborhood Partners Program (NPP)** provides matching grants of up to **\$5,000** in goods and services to accomplish approved projects. Funding is available to established neighborhood/community groups within designated Community Development Block Grant eligible neighborhoods and within the North Long Beach Redevelopment Project Area neighborhoods. Eligible groups must be formally established organizations having

designated officers and membership rosters and a history of neighborhood involvement. The match provided by the applicant must be equal to at least 50% of the total project cost and may be supplied in the form of cash, goods and services, and volunteer work hours (volunteer work hours may not be the sole match).

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Neighbors Plant Trees with Neighborhood Partners Program Matching Grant (Continued)

NPP can assist a variety of improvements and beautification projects. Projects must have a public benefit, and must have support of the organization's governing body and the affected neighborhood and may include tree plantings or landscape projects, adopting and improving neighborhood parks or schools, creating community gardens/landscaped open space, neighborhood brochures or banners, and community murals.



For more information about the **Neighborhood Partners Program**, please contact **Jim Osgood** at **(562) 570-5221** or e-mail **James.Osgood@longbeach.gov**.