

CITY OF MALIBU

# CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER



February 13, 2026



## Greetings Malibu,

In this edition, you'll find updates on the City Council, City projects, community initiatives, and upcoming opportunities to get involved. Highlights include the selection and swearing in of Bruce Silverstein as the next Mayor and Steve Uhring as the next Mayor Pro Tem.

We continue to see inspiring progress as more and more families make progress on rebuilding homes lost in the recent fires, with 551 total building permits issued to date, 29 permits to begin construction issued, and at least 20 rebuilds already under construction. Every permit represents a family getting closer to completing their homes.

On February 4, we celebrated the ribbon cutting of the award-winning PCH Signal Synchronization Project, the City's most significant measure addressing PCH safety.

The crew continues to work diligently on the final touches of the bowl and street sections of the Permanent Skate Park, with the anticipation of a soft opening on Saturday, February 14 for the skate park section.

The results of the 2026 Homeless Count highlights the City's long-standing, service-oriented approach that balances outreach and services with protecting public safety and removing encampments. The count identified 44 individuals experiencing homelessness in the City, continuing a multi-year downward trend.

As always, we have a wide variety of community services programs, classes, and events for residents of all ages.

Thank you for staying engaged and connected with the City of Malibu. We appreciate your partnership as we continue working together to serve Malibu.

With gratitude,

**Rob DuBoux**

Interim City Manager

Public Works Director

[Rduboux@MalibuCity.org](mailto:Rduboux@MalibuCity.org)

# CITY COUNCIL AND MANAGEMENT

## Malibu City Council Appoints Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem for New Term

At its February 9 City Council meeting, the City Council selected and swore in Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Silverstein as the City's next Mayor and appointed Councilmember Steve Uhring as Mayor Pro Tem.

The Council thanked the outgoing Mayor, Councilmember Marianne Riggins, and presented her with a plaque in recognition for her service to Malibu representing the City, the community, and the Council during her term. Mayor Silverstein had his oath of office administered by his son, Louis Silverstein. Mayor Pro Tem Uhring was sworn in by City Clerk Kelsey Pettijohn.



[Watch the Meeting](#)

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## Ribbon Cutting for Malibu's PCH Signal Synchronization Project

On February 4, the City of Malibu held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of the City's Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) Signal Synchronization Project at PCH and Webb Way. The event included remarks from Malibu Councilmember Marianne Riggins, Third District Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, Senator Ben Allen's representative, Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin's representative, Caltrans District 7 Director Gloria Roberts, COG Metro Board Representative Ara Najarian, Michele Shane from Emily Shane Foundation, and Damian Kevitt from Streets Are For Everyone (SAFE).

The project, which was completed and activated just before the winter holiday, was named the 2025 American Public Works Association (APWA) Ventura County Project of the Year in Transportation. The City's most significant measure to date to address PCH safety, the project connects 12 traffic signals between Topanga Canyon Boulevard and John Tyler Drive, allowing Caltrans to control them in real time based on existing traffic conditions. The goal is to improve traffic flow, reduce congestion, lower speeds, and improve safety. The project also includes video monitoring, sensors, and intersection improvements.

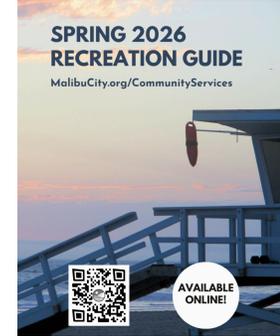


[Learn More](#)

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[Explore the City of Malibu's Spring Rec Offerings in the Recreation Guide](#)

The City's 2026 Spring Recreation Guide and City Newsletter is available online at [MalibuCity.org/CommunityServices](https://MalibuCity.org/CommunityServices) and will be mailed to Malibu residents this week. The Guide features the City's excellent programs, parks, and facilities, and the City Newsletter has informative articles and contact information for City departments and services.



Registration for Spring Programs opens on Tuesday, February 17, at 8:00 AM. To register for programs, visit [MalibuCity.org/Register](https://MalibuCity.org/Register).

For ongoing up-to-date information on Community Services programs, visit [MalibuCity.org/CommunityServices](https://MalibuCity.org/CommunityServices).

For questions, please contact Kate Manisco, Recreation Manager at 310-456-2489, ext. 363, [KManisco@MalibuCity.org](mailto:KManisco@MalibuCity.org).

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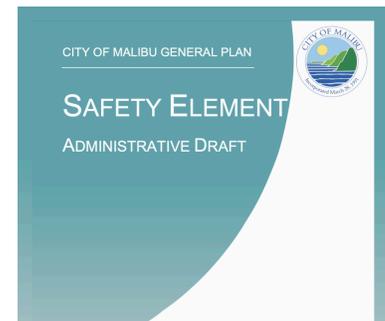
## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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### General Plan Safety Element

On March 2, the Planning Commission will consider the Draft General Plan Safety Element and will make a recommendation to the City Council. For meeting details and instructions on how to participate, please refer to the [Notice of Public Hearing](#).

The City of Malibu's Public Safety Department is currently updating the City's General Plan Safety Element in accordance with California Government Code Section 65302 (g). The update will address critical community issues, including wildfire risk, geotechnical safety, climate adaptation, and evacuation planning. In addition to meeting state requirements, the updated Safety Element will help the City qualify for the 2026 Fire Risk Reduction Community List, which provides advantages to Malibu residents when applying for homeowner's insurance and potential discounts.



[Learn More](#)

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### Malibu Middle and High School Campus Improvements

On January 20, the Planning Commission adopted Resolution No. 26-04 approving a Coastal Development Permit for the next phase of development for the Malibu Middle and High School Campus Specific Plan, referred to as Phases 2, 3a and 4a. The project is focused on the new middle school facilities, including a two-story gym, outdoor sports courts, student activity and food service building, a media arts building, middle school quad, landscaping, solar installation, and utility upgrades. The project includes the demolition of several portable buildings.



## Accessory Dwelling Unit Ordinance Update

On January 20, the Planning Commission approved **Resolution No. 26-03** recommending updates to Malibu's Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) rules. The changes align the City's code with state ADU and Junior Accessory Dwelling Unit (JADU) laws and guidance from the California Department of Housing and Community Development taking effect in 2026. The recommendation will go to the City Council for approval.



[Learn More](#)

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## Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Loan Outreach Center Now Open in Pacific Palisades

The Small Business Administration (SBA) has opened a Disaster Loan Outreach Center in Pacific Palisades to provide in-person help for homeowners, renters, small businesses, and nonprofits who have applied for disaster assistance after recent wildfires and winds. SBA staff can help with the next steps, questions, missing documents, and possible loan increases for mitigation. New applications may be accepted in limited cases.

Located at Ronald Reagan Palisades Post 283, 15247 La Cruz Dr., open Monday–Friday, 8:30 AM–5:00 PM

For more information, visit [sba.gov/disaster](https://sba.gov/disaster) or call (800) 659-2955 (711 for relay services).



[Appointments](#)

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## Fire Rebuild Progress Update

Community Development Director Yolanda Bundy provided an update on the fire rebuild progress to the City Council at the January 26 meeting. Below are the most up to date numbers.

**Building permits issued:** 551 total permits have been issued in the fire incident area to date.

**Planning applications:**

- 67 applications are currently under review.
- 157 planning applications have been approved.

**Building plan review:**

- 47 single-family homes are currently under building review.
- 29 building permits have been issued for homes, with at least 20 homes already under construction.

**Rebuild Center activity:**

- Since opening in March, the Rebuild Center has hosted 2,170 appointments.
- Average of 45 appointments per week.



# ENVIRONMENTAL

## Environmental Programs 2026 Accomplishments

On February 10, 2025, the Environmental Sustainability Subcommittee received a presentation from the Community Development Department, covering the Environmental Programs 2025 accomplishments and highlights. City staff also provided 2026 initiatives supporting Malibu residents, businesses, and the broader community. The meeting is available on [YouTube here](#).



[More Events](#)

## Transform Your Yard & Save Big With West Basin Rebates

Get rebates from [West Basin Municipal Water District](#) starting at \$3 per square foot of grass removed — up to \$30,000 per project — by replacing turf with a water-saving, eco-friendly landscape. Qualifying residents in underserved communities may be eligible for an increased rebate of up to \$6 per square foot.

To help you get started, West Basin is also offering FREE professional landscape designs, a value of approximately \$1,500, which is required to apply for the grass removal rebate.



[See if You Qualify](#)

## Rebates for Replacing Grass Lawns With Environmentally Friendly Trees

Transform your yard into a sustainable, California Friendly® landscape and receive \$100 per tree (up to five trees) through LA County Waterworks District 29's new tree rebate program. Find a step-by-step application guide and discounted native plant landscape designs.



[Learn More](#)

## Free Household Hazardous Waste & E-Waste Drive Through Event - February 21

Safely dispose of your household hazardous and electronic waste at the City's free HHW/E-Waste Collection Event on Saturday, February 21, 10:00 AM–2:00 PM, at the upper City Hall parking lot (23825 Stuart Ranch Rd). Accepted items include paint, motor oil, antifreeze, batteries, CFLs, and electronics. Containers must be labeled. Limit: 15 gallons or 125 pounds per trip. Events are held on the third Saturday in February, April, June, August, and October.



See Details

## Native Garden Kit Rebate Program

Malibu is partnering with West Basin and TreePeople to offer a self-contained native garden kit designed to make landscape transformation easy, affordable, and environmentally friendly!

Kits will be available this summer for \$120 and feature themed designs for your garden.



Learn More

## PUBLIC WORKS

### Malibu Skate Park, Open Saturdays & Sundays

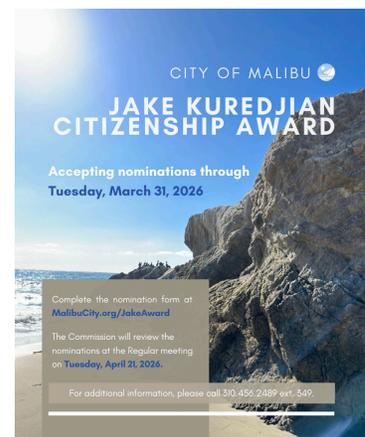
The City of Malibu is proud to announce the soft opening of the Malibu Skate Park at Malibu Bluffs Park. Skaters will have an opportunity to use the park on Saturdays and Sundays, beginning Saturday, February 14, from 9:00AM to 6:00PM (weekends only). The location will be an active construction site Monday through Friday, while crews complete landscaping, irrigation, fencing, the parking lot, and the restroom building. Skating is permitted only in authorized areas, and safety equipment is required. Visit the [City's website](#) to view park rules and additional information.

Learn More



### Jake Kuredjian Citizenship Award – Nominations Open

The City of Malibu Parks and Recreation Commission is accepting nominations for the Jake Kuredjian Citizenship Award through Tuesday, March 31. The award is presented annually to an outstanding individual or group who gives their time and resources to enhance the quality of recreation programs for the Malibu community. The online application is available on the [City's website](#).



## PUBLIC SAFETY

## City of Malibu's Successful Approach to Homelessness Reflected in Continued Decline in Homeless Count Numbers

Preliminary results from the 2026 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count showed 44 people experiencing homelessness in Malibu (33 individuals and 11 vehicles), continuing a multi-year decline. The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)-coordinated count was conducted on January 22 by City staff, the Homeless Outreach Team, LAHSA, and volunteers. Since 2017, Malibu's outreach and coordinated encampment response efforts have led to significant housing placements and declining counts.

### Homeless Count by Year

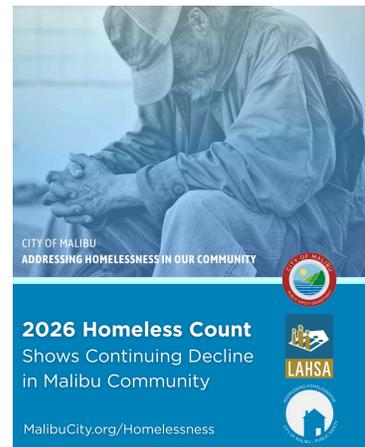
2016: 161  
2017: 178  
2018: 155  
2019: 154  
2020: 239  
2021: 157  
2022: 81  
2023: 71  
2024: 69  
2025: 46  
2026: 44

### Housing placements:

2021: 22  
2022: 67  
2023: 51  
2024: 72  
2025: 46

The City also cleared 44 encampments in both 2024 and 2025, providing advance notice, outreach services, and environmental cleanup.

[Learn More](#)



## Now Is the Time To Plan for Long-Term Wildfire Safety – Become a Firewise Community

Now is a great time to start making long-term wildfire safety plans. The City of Malibu's Fire Safety Liaisons can help interested Malibu neighborhoods pursue Firewise USA recognition, a free and voluntary program that helps neighbors work together to reduce wildfire risk and build resilience. To date, they have assisted 13 neighborhoods becoming Firewise Communities, and seven more are in the works.



Firewise provides a clear framework for organizing, planning, and taking action. Neighborhoods, HOAs, POAs, condo complexes, and mobile home parks with 8 to 2,500 homes are eligible. In addition to the City's Home Wildfire Hardening efforts, Firewise USA recognition is one factor

insurance companies consider when offering discounts under California's "Safer from Wildfires" regulations.

As CAL FIRE designated Regional Coordinators, the City's Fire Safety Liaisons can guide neighborhoods through the entire application process.

For more information or to schedule a neighborhood meeting, email Fire Safety Liaison Bradley Yocum at [BYocum@MalibuCity.org](mailto:BYocum@MalibuCity.org)

[Learn More](#)

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## COMMUNITY SERVICES

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### Caffeinated Verse

Saturday, February 14  
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
Malibu Library  
Complimentary

Hosted by Malibu Poet Laureate Charlotte Ward, this Valentine's Day gathering welcomes all who love the poetic word. Celebrate "Love in the Afternoon" with featured readers Marsha de la O and Phil Taggart, followed by an open mic. Details are on the City's [poetry website](#). RSVP is not required.



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### Heart Chocolate Boxes

Tuesday, February 17  
1:00 – 2:30 PM  
Malibu City Hall, Senior Center  
Complimentary

Create a seasonal art activity; all supplies included. RSVP by calling (310) 456-2489, ext. 357.



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### Mardi Gras Senior Center Luncheon

Thursday, February 19  
12:00 – 1:30 PM  
Malibu City Hall, Senior Center  
\$5 per participant

Celebrate and socialize at the Mardi Gras-themed luncheon! Enjoy a catered lunch and live entertainment. Maximum 70 participants. [Online registration](#) is required. Call (310) 456-2489, ext. 357 for details.



## Wellness Workshop – Reiki Sound Bath

Thursday, February 19  
4:30 – 6:00 PM  
Malibu Bluffs Park  
Complimentary

Learn ways to release tension and stress, balance energy, and promote well-being. Instructed by The Mindry. [Online registration](#) required.



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## Charmlee Night Hike

Friday, February 20  
5:30 PM  
Charmlee Wilderness Park  
Complimentary

Experience the park's natural surroundings, listen to nocturnal animals, and view the night sky. The hike is 90 minutes on uneven terrain. [Online registration](#) is required. Limited to 20 participants.



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## Poetry Writing Studios Vibrant Cycles

Saturday, February 21  
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
Malibu Library  
Complimentary

A generative poetry writing studio where participants cycle through each other's energies, read and discuss poems to stimulate imaginations, and write original poems from prompts or personal impetus. Details on the [poetry website](#). RSVP is not required.



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## Getty Center Senior Excursion

Tuesday, February 24  
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
The bus will leave from Malibu Bluffs Park at 9:00 AM  
\$25 per participant

Enjoy a beautiful day at the Getty Center! Wander through spectacular gardens and explore the museum at your leisure. [Online registration](#) required by February 17.



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## Painting With Helen

Wednesday, February 25  
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Malibu City Hall, Senior Center  
\$10 per participant

Learn about composition, color mixing, shading, brush stroke techniques, and more! All art supplies will be provided. Maximum



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## UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

### FEBRUARY 14

Caffeinated Verse Event – [Malibu Library](#), 11:00 AM

### FEBRUARY 17

Regular Planning Commission Meeting – [City Hall](#), 6:30 PM

### FEBRUARY 18

Special City Council Meeting – [City Hall](#), 2:00 PM

### FEBRUARY 23

Regular City Council Meeting – [City Hall](#), 5:30 PM



## MALIBU REBUILDING UPDATES

[Sign up for the Newsletter](#)

[Previous Newsletter](#)

[Rebuild Website](#)

## STATISTICS

*For more Rebuild information & resources, see the [Rebuild website](#) & [newsletter](#)*

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### **Staff continue to work with homeowners at the Rebuild Center.**

- Contact or Visit the Rebuild Center 23805 Stuart Ranch Road, Suite 240 Open Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- Schedule an in-person or virtual appointment [on the website](#) or call 310-456-2489, ext. 400. Walk-ins are also welcome.

## Rebuild Totals - Single-Family Residences

### Planning Phase

66

#### Under Planning Review

Projects that have been submitted to Planning, and are currently being reviewed

159

#### Total Planning Approved

Total Applications approved by Planning

### Building Phase

47

#### Building Plan Check - Submitted

Projects that have been submitted for plan check, and are currently being reviewed by all City departments

29

#### Building Permits Issued

Building Permits issued and approved for construction

0

#### Total

Certificates of Occupancy issued

# SIGN UP FOR NOTIFY ME!

Sign up for City notifications to receive important updates about emergencies, road closures, community events, public meetings, and more—straight to your phone or email. Stay connected and be the first to know what's happening in your community!

## FOR MORE INFORMATION



MalibuCity.org  
310-456-2489  
PIO@MalibuCity.org  
23825 Stuart Ranch Rd, Malibu CA, 90265

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