Local officials have plans to help protect pedestrians on Santa Monica's streets but questions persist over the amount of effort, and money, required to implement those ideas.

During the City Council meeting held on March 21, Councilmembers Caroline Torosis and Jesse Zwick requested that the City Council direct the City Manager to report back in 60 days on the cost and timeline for the implementation of a pilot program augmenting the city’s Vision Zero plan with safety-enhancing signal improvements at select intersections.

Councilmember Phil Brock proposed a friendly amendment to expand the pilot program to look at intersections that are not signaled that could maybe use traffic enhancements. The motion, with amendments, was unanimously approved by voice vote with all members present.

The plan given to Council this week includes: safety-enhancing signal improvements at select intersections, banning “right on red” at all pedestrian “scramble” diagonal crossings in Downtown Santa Monica; reprogramming traffic signals to operate on “pedestrian recall” (a timing function that causes a walk phase to activate automatically every cycle); the utilization of a “leading pedestrian interval” — or LPI — (which gives pedestrians a few seconds head start when entering an intersection with a corresponding green signal in the same direction of travel) at 10 priority intersections together with more effective utilization of data on frequency of pedestrian use.

The Vision Zero initiative itself was adopted in February 2016 and the aim was to bring the number of fatal and severe injury crashes on our streets down to zero by 2026. As the City's website says, “The City’s Vision Zero commitment is part of a global initiative to promote safety and awareness of all users who share our roadways and will continue to be a resource for the community to learn about questions regarding whether the proposed merger is likely to substantially lessen competition in the console, library subscription services, or cloud gaming markets,” Corley wrote.

Microsoft appeared to have the upper hand in a 5-day San Francisco court hearing that ended late last month. The proceeding showcased testimony by Microsoft Chief Executive Officer Satya Nadella and longtime Activision Blizzard CEO Bobby Kotick, who both pledged to keep Activision’s blockbuster game Call of Duty available to people...
A grand jury sworn in Tuesday could decide whether Trump is charged over Georgia’s 2020 election

A grand jury that was sworn in Tuesday in Atlanta will likely consider whether criminal charges are appropriate for former President Donald Trump or his Republican allies for their efforts to overturn his 2020 election loss in Georgia.

Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis has been investigating since shortly after Trump called Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger in early 2021 and suggested the state’s top elections official could help him “find 11,780 votes,” just enough needed to overturn his loss to Democrat Joe Biden.

The 2 1/2-year investigation expanded to include an examination of a slate of Republican fake electors, phone calls by Trump and others to Georgia officials in the weeks after the 2020 election and unfounded allegations of widespread election fraud made to state lawmakers.

Willis, a Democrat, is expected to present her case before one of two new grand juries being seated Tuesday. She has previously suggested that any indictments would likely not be willing to talk to her team. That special grand jury was seated in May 2022 and was released in January after completing its work.

It was essentially an investigative tool and didn’t have the power to indict. Instead, it issued subpoenas and considered testimony from about 75 witnesses, as well as other evidence, before drafting a final report with recommendations for Willis.

While part of that report was made public in February, the judge overseeing the special grand jury said any recommendations on specific charges for specific people would remain secret for the time being. The panel’s foreperson said in media interviews later that month that they recommended indicting numerous people, but she declined to name names.

Willis isn’t bound by the special grand jury’s recommendations.

WHO MIGHT WILLIS BE EYEING FOR POSSIBLE CHARGES?

Willis sent letters last summer warning certain people — including the state’s fake electors and former New York mayor and Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani — that they could face charges in the case. Some of the fake electors have since reached immunity deals with Willis’ team. While she hasn’t said one way or the other whether she would seek charges against Trump, Willis has repeatedly said no one is above the law.

Willis is a fan of Georgia’s Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act, and there have been hints she’ll use it in this case. The RICO Act allows prosecutors to bring charges against multiple people that they believe committed separate crimes while working toward a common goal.

A grand jury sworn in Tuesday could decide whether Trump is charged over Georgia’s 2020 election

KATE BRUMBACK
Associated Press

A total of 96 potential grand jurors showed up at the Fulton County courthouse Tuesday. Fulton County Superior Court Judge Robert McBurney explained what a grand jury does and asked basic questions to the group to make sure everyone was eligible to serve.

McBurney then called on members of the group one by one and asked them to say whether they were “ready to serve” or if they had a hardship that should prevent them from serving. Afterward, McBurney, Willis and members of her team began meeting privately with people who cited a hardship to decide whether they would be excused.

Then McBurney read out 26 names — 23 grand jurors and three alternates — to serve on Grand Jury B, which will meet Thursdays and Fridays. It’s unclear which one of those grand juries would hear Willis’ election case.

The district attorney and her team then met with the grand jurors behind closed doors before McBurney returned to the room to swear in the grand jurors and give them instructions.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE CASE IS PRESENTED TO THE GRAND JURY?

Georgia law requires an indictment from a grand jury to prosecute someone in most felony cases — things like murder, aggravated assault, robbery and other crimes. When prosecutors present a case, they’re trying to convince the grand jurors that there is probable cause that one or more people

SEE TRUMP PAGE 6

Avoid the 405 with 10 primary care offices

One Medical makes it easy to get in-person primary care and 24/7 virtual care for your body and mind. Visit us in our comfortable, modern offices or right from your phone — our providers will make you feel seen, heard, and cared for.

- 10 primary care offices in the area
- 24/7 on-demand virtual care via message or video
- Improved appointment lengths with minimal wait
- Request prescription refills via our app
- Simple referral process for specialists

Get $55* off your 1st year of membership with code: SMDPOM
Learn more at onemedical.com/smdp

*Terms & conditions apply
BofA hit with $250 million in fines and customer refunds for ‘double-dipping’ fees, fake accounts

KEN SWEET AND MICHELLE CHAPMAN
The Associated Press

Bank of America will reimburse customers more than $100 million and pay $150 million in fines for “double-dipping” on overdraft fees, withholding reward bonuses on credit cards and opening accounts without customer consent.

Empowered by a broad mandate from the White House, Chopra and the bureau have focused heavily in the past year on the issue of “junk fees” — fees charged to Americans that are often seen as unnecessary or exploitative by banks, debt collectors, airlines and concert venues. Banks such as BofA, JPMorgan Chase, Wells Fargo and others have been a target for the bureau under the Biden administration.

Part of the fines and penalties come because Bank of America had a policy of charging customers $35 after the bank declined a transaction because the customer did not have enough funds in their account, the CFPB said. The agency determined that the bank double-dipped by allowing fees to be repeatedly charged for the same transaction.

The fees often came when customers had routine monthly transactions, like a gym membership. If a customer had too low of a balance to cover the transaction, it would be declined and BofA would charge the customer a $35 fee. The business, who hasn’t been paid, often would recharged the customer’s account, resulting in another $35 non-sufficient funds fee.

The bank ended this practice last year, but will still have to repay customers who got charged before the policy was changed. BofA has been cutting down on its reliance on overdraft fee revenue for more than a decade, and cut how much it charges customers for an overdraft to $15 last year. Brian Moynihan, the bank’s CEO and chairman, told The Associated Press in 2022 that under these new policies, overdraft fee income was down 90% from 2021. The bank said that it voluntarily reduced overdraft fees and eliminated all non-sufficient fund fees in the first half of last year.

Bank of America also offered people cash rewards and bonus points when signing up for a card, but the CFPB said the bank illegally withheld promised credit card account bonuses.

The CFPB also found that, since at least 2012, Bank of America employees illegally applied for and enrolled consumers in credit card accounts without their knowledge or authorization. It is a similar to, but smaller than, a charge that was made against Wells Fargo, which paid billions in fines after it was determined that the San Francisco bank opened millions of unauthorized bank accounts in order to meet unrealistic sales goals.

In 2014 the CFPB ordered Bank of America to pay $727 million for illegal credit card practices. Last year it was ordered to pay a $10 million civil penalty over unlawful garnishments. Also in 2022, the CFPB and OCC fined Bank of America $225 million and required it to pay hundreds of millions of dollars in redress to consumers for botched disbursement of state unemployment benefits at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit sealed bids for the:

FY23-24 Annual Paving Project
SP2680

Bids will only be accepted through the CITY’S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL, ProcureNow or https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca. They must be received by the specified date and time. Late bids will not be accepted. Please allow sufficient time for uploading of documents. The bid opening will be electronic, all submitted bids will be viewable by the public via ProcureNow immediately after bid close time.

MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK: N/A

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $2,400,000
CONTRACT DAYS: 270 Calendar Days
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $1,250 Per Calendar Day

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City’s bidding website at: https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca. The Contractor is required to have an Class A license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be consider must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City’s Request for Bids.

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

• RFP: #366 PREVAILING WAGE & CERTIFIED PAYROLL MONITORING
• Submission Deadline Is September 7, 2023, at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the CITY’S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL. The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents are ProcureNow (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for the RFP package.

The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday through Friday, 3915 Main St., Santa Monica, California 90403. The office is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters to the Editor can be submitted to letters@smdp.com. Receipt of a letter does not guarantee publication and all content is published at the discretion of the paper. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content. All submissions must include the author’s name, address and phone number for the purposes of verification.
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendments to the Text of the Santa Monica Municipal Code to Provide Incentives for Certain Housing Projects ThatFiled an Application Prior to Implementation of the City’s 6th Cycle (2021-2029) Housing Element

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following request:

Introduction and first reading of an ordinance amending the text of the Zoning Ordinance to provide incentives for certain housing projects that filed an application prior to implementation of the City’s 6th Cycle (2021-2029) Housing Element. More specifically, the following local incentives would allow:

1) A 15% inclusionary requirement for the development of off-site affordable housing units, giving the owners more flexibility to pool off-site affordable housing units into one 100% affordable housing project to satisfy off-site inclusionary requirements for multiple market-rate projects;

2) The grant of State Density Bonus waivers and concessions for the market rate projects as if the off-site units were provided on-site; and

3) An increase in the Downtown Community Plan maximum parking requirement from 0.5 to 1.0 spaces.

The local incentives would apply to new housing projects with applications filed between June 1, 2023 and two years after the effective date of the proposed ordinance located on parcels that meet the following criteria:

1) A preliminary application was filed for a housing development project pursuant to Government Code Section 65941.1 between September 30, and October 13, 2022; and

2) The preliminary application asserted eligibility for processing under the "builder's remedy" provision of the Housing Accountability Act, Government Code Section 65899.5(c).

As explained more fully in the proposed ordinance, the incentives, with the exception of the "parking" incentive, would terminate and be of no further force and effect upon issuance of administrative approvals for 965 "additional units". For purposes of the proposed ordinance, "additional units" means the total amount of units provided by one or more eligible projects, including market rate, affordable, on-site and off-site units, that exceed the collective unit capacity allocated to the properties associated with eligible project subject to the proposed ordinance under the Suitable Sites Inventory for the City’s 6th Cycle (2021-2029) Housing Element.

COMPLIANCE WITH CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

City Council will be asked to consider compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), including whether to adopt a finding that no subsequent environmental review is required pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section15162 based on a determination that the adoption of development incentives as set forth in the proposed ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance was analyzed as part of the 2021-2029 6th Cycle Housing Element Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (SCU No. 2021000575) that was certified by the City Council on October 12, 2021 with an Addendum to the EIR approved by the City Council on October 11, 2022.

DATE/TIME: TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2023 AT 7:00 PM

LOCATION: City Council Chamber, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT:
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Members of the public unable to attend a meeting but wishing to comment on an item(s) listed on the agenda may submit written comments prior to the public hearing via email to council@cityofsantamonica.gov or via mail to City Clerk, 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, California 90401. Written public comment submitted before 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be available for online viewing. All written comments shall be made part of the public record. Please note the agenda item number in the subject line of your written comments.

You may also comment in person at the City Council hearing. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment in person.

Address your comments to:

City Clerk
Re: Housing Projects Development Incentives Ordinance

VIA EMAIL: council@cityofsantamonica.gov
VIA MAIL: 1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION: If you want more information about this project, please contact Roxanne Tanemori at (310) 458-2200 ext 8202, or by email at roxanne.tanemori@santamonica.gov. For disability-related accommodations, please contact the City Clerk’s Office at (310) 458-8211 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate languages provided the request is received 72 hours prior to the meeting, Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica, or at, prior to the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL: Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si desea más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planeación al número (310) 458-2275.

Los Angeles Times owners sell San Diego Union-Tribune to publishing powerhouse

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The owner of the Los Angeles Times has sold sister paper The San Diego Union-Tribune to MediaNews Group, which owns hundreds of papers around the country, the paper announced Monday.

The decision comes after the LA Times announced last month that it was cutting 74 jobs — 13% of its newsroom positions — to deal with financial difficulties.

Our intention now is to focus on the ongoing work of transforming the L.A. Times into a self-sustaining institution - Patrick Soon-Shiong

The Union-Tribune, which covers the second-largest city in California, will now be owned by the same chain that owns a slew of Southern California newspapers. The parent company is Alden Global Capital, a New York hedge fund that has been buying newspapers across the country and faced criticism for slashing budgets and cutting jobs.

The new owner is offering employee buyouts through next Monday and may lay people off, the Union-Tribune reported.

The price of the sale wasn’t disclosed.

“Our intention now is to focus on the ongoing work of transforming the L.A. Times into a self-sustaining institution,” Patrick Soon-Shiong said in a statement contained in Argentieri’s memo. “Our hometown of Los Angeles and the state of California – really, the West Coast – needs a strong, independent news organization. We believe in the L.A. Times and are committed to its future.”

In his memo, Argentieri said the owners “have made a good faith effort to rebuild and support both news organizations.”

“We hope that this change now will position both the L.A. Times and San Diego Union-Tribune to succeed,” he wrote.

Argentieri didn’t indicate the price of the sale and didn’t indicate whether there will be any employee cuts at the Union-Tribune, which has 220 employees.

According to its website, Denver-based MediaNews Group owns 68 daily and more than 300 weekly publications throughout the United States, including the Denver Post, Mercury News of San Jose, Orange County Register, St. Paul Pioneer Press and the Boston Herald, with a combined monthly audience of more than 60 million print and online viewers.


The news industry has been rocked in recent months by layoffs at news organizations including The Washington Post and National Public Radio. The decision for the LA Times to shed its sister paper came days after journalists at two dozen local newspapers across the U.S. walked off the job to demand an end to painful cost-cutting measures at Gannett, the country’s biggest newspaper chain.

Gannett said the cuts aimed to address declining revenue amid a downturn in ad sales and customer subscriptions.

The newspaper industry has struggled for years with such challenges as advertising has shifted from print to digital, and readers have abandoned local newspapers for online sources of information and entertainment.

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press

editor@smdp.com
Crime Watch is culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ON JUNE 24 AT 2 AM
SMPD officers responded to an audible alarm at a business near the 900 block of Wilshire Blvd. Upon arrival they noticed the front door to the business was open and located a person in the lobby. The suspect, later identified as James Anderson, claimed to have entered the location to escape the cold. Evidence at the scene suggested the Anderson forcefully entered through the front door and while inside consumed a bowl of candy. Anderson was transported to the Santa Monica Jail and booked for burglary.

GUEST COMMENTARY
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Unsafe Skittles? Why California should ban toxic chemicals found in popular candy

BRIAN RONHOLM

Food companies shouldn’t be allowed to sell products in the U.S. made with toxic chemicals while they sell the same products in other countries without them. Yet that’s exactly what happens with certain candies, baked goods and beverages. Manufacturers ship products with safer ingredients to other countries while the inferior versions containing harmful chemicals and additives are sold every day in America.

A bill by Assemblyman Jesse Gabriel, a Woodland Hills Democrat, would prohibit the use of five toxic chemicals found in candies such as Skittles and Sour Patch Kids. Recent scientific evidence has linked certain food additives to serious health problems, including higher risk of cancer, nervous system damage, hyperactivity and other neurological problems.

The risks posed by these five food chemicals – BVO, potassium bromate, propyl paraben, red dye No. 3 and titanium dioxide – are particularly concerning for children, who often consume these candies at higher rates than adults and whose developing bodies are particularly vulnerable to toxic exposure.

The proposal to ban them, Assembly Bill 418, was approved by the California Assembly in May but is now facing fierce industry opposition in the Senate.

Because of the health risks, these chemicals have been banned or severely restricted in the European Union and other countries. To continue selling their products there, food manufacturers replaced the toxic ingredients with readily available alternatives that are safer and, in some cases, more cost effective. However, they have continued using the banned chemicals in products sold in the U.S.

After AB 418 passed the Assembly by an overwhelming 54-12 vote, the food industry began blitzing the capital with an army of lobbyists to try to stop the bill in the Senate, arguing that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has reviewed the safety of these ingredients and will take care of it without California needing to act. However, the FDA is not required to reexamine additives once they are allowed on the market, so the last time some of these chemicals were assessed was almost 50 years ago.

For years, studies have highlighted the health risks posed by the dangerous additives that would be banned under AB 418. Given the FDA’s ongoing failure to act, it’s critical for states like California to protect consumers from harmful ingredients.

The industry is also pointing to a recent FDA blog post announcing how the agency intends to take a new approach to reviewing chemicals, which would make California’s legislation unnecessary. However, the blog post provided few details, no deadlines and made no commitment for new resources. It merely stated that they would like to do more to review chemicals, but would need additional funding and authority from Congress.

The likelihood for that type of action is unclear, and consumers shouldn’t have to wait.

Californians deserve to know that the food they purchase is safe to eat. State lawmakers should resist the food industry’s misinformation campaign and prohibit companies from selling inferior products containing toxic chemicals in California.

Brian Ronholm is the director of food policy at CalMatters.
TRUMP
FROM PAGE 2

committed crimes and to get the grand jurors to sign off on bringing charges against them. For each case, prosecutors read or explain the potential indictment and then call witnesses or present any other evidence. Any witnesses who testify must swear an oath to tell the truth.

Often in Georgia, the only witnesses the grand jury hears from are law enforcement officers, including investigators for the district attorney’s office. They can tell the grand jurors what they’ve learned in their investigation, including what suspects or witnesses have said and what other evidence they have.

Members of the grand jury are allowed to question witnesses. In general, a person who is named as a defendant on the potential indictment cannot be called to testify before the grand jury.

HOW DO GRAND JURY DELIBERATIONS WORK?

After the case has been presented, only members of the grand jury can be in the room for deliberations. They discuss the case and vote on whether to return a “true bill” or a “no bill.” A “true bill” means the grand jurors have voted to indict because they think there is probable cause to believe that the person accused committed the alleged crimes. A “no bill” means the grand jurors don’t believe the person committed the alleged crimes or there isn’t enough evidence to indict.

At least 16 grand jurors must participate in the voting, and an indictment requires 12 of them to vote in favor of charges. The grand juror oath in Georgia requires jurors to “keep the deliberations of the Grand Jury secret unless called upon to give evidence thereof in some court of law of this State.”

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER GRAND JURORS VOTE?

If a grand jury votes to bring charges, the indictment must be presented in open court by the grand jury or the sworn grand jury bailiff in a courtroom where a judge and the clerk are present. Then it is filed in the clerk’s office and is a public document. Soon after that, those charged will be booked and have their first court appearances.

If the grand jury votes against indicting anyone, prosecutors can present the case again to a different grand jury. But if two grand juries vote not to indict on the same charges, prosecutors generally cannot try again to get an indictment on those charges.

IF TRUMP IS INDICTED, CAN HE STILL RUN FOR PRESIDENT?

Yes. Neither an indictment nor a conviction would prevent Trump from running for or winning the presidency in 2024. He has already been indicted twice this year in other cases. He faces 34 felony charges in New York state court accusing him of falsifying business records in a hush money scheme over allegations of extramarital sexual encounters. And he faces 37 felony charges in federal court in Florida accusing him of boarding classified documents and refusing government demands to give them back.

In addition, a Justice Department special counsel is investigating his efforts to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election in multiple states, as well as the events leading up to the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection at the U.S. Capitol.

GET IT DAILY...
safety related initiatives and infrastructure projects."

Proposed changes coincide with efforts locally and in the region to prepare for both the 2026 FIFA World Cup and the Olympics in 2028. Staff said the current ideas are all proven to help protect people in crosswalks but they are not a panacea for traffic accidents.

“If you’re asking, by deploying these three treatments, at every intersection in the city, will we achieve Vision Zero, I’m going to say no, it’s going to take a whole lot more than just making modifications and traffic signals at certain intersections,” says Jason Kligier, Mobility Manager for the City of Santa Monica.

For example, one component of the City’s adopted plans includes the installation of LPIs at key intersections in the City where collision data indicates a high number of conflicts between vehicle drivers and pedestrians, plus cyclists and scooter riders.

According to the document, staff estimate that the level of effort to implement LPIs for all directions at an intersection is approximately 30 minutes per intersection since the task requires only staff time to adjust the signal timing in the field. However, on corridors where the traffic signals are coordinated, a new signal timing sheet will need to be prepared and may require retiming the entire corridor. In these cases, the cost is approximately $50,000 per corridor and 120 hours of staff time to review and implement.

Kligier stresses that there are a lot of different elements that need to be factored in when considering how to achieve the Vision Zero commitment by 2026.

“There are other legs to the stool, there’s education and training and teaching our roadway users … so that there’s a greater level of understanding between drivers and cyclists and pedestrians and wheelchair users and transit users and scooter users,” Kligier says.

“And the police department is responsible for the enforcement of the rules of the roads. We, in the Department of Transportation, design them and get community support and then roll them out. But there’s also the enforcement and so all of those things work together to realize Vision Zero.”

However, not every element of Santa Monica’s road renaissance has met with overwhelming support. The new bike lane on 17th Street caused some controversy with opponents claiming it made the road more dangerous and supporters saying it made bike riding safer. While some see the pushback as purely a reluctance to change long-time car culture in favor of bicycle infrastructure, critics say the reality is more complex and that the City failed to address their concerns.

“So, the 17th Street bike lane project is not going to be removed,” Kligier says, adding, “But we have heard a lot of constructive feedback from the community about how it could be improved and in the last few months, we have evaluated and implemented a lot of these suggestions.”

scott.snowden@smdp.com
Microsoft

FROM PAGE 1

who play it on consoles — particularly Sony’s PlayStation — that compete with Microsoft’s Xbox.

“Our merger will benefit consumers and workers. It will enable competition rather than allow entrenched market leaders to continue to dominate our rapidly growing industry,” Kotick said in a written statement after Tuesday’s ruling.

The FTC had asked Corley to issue an injunction temporarily blocking Microsoft and Activision from closing the deal before the FTC’s in-house judge can review it in an August trial.

Both companies suggested that such a delay would effectively force them to abandon the takeover agreement they signed nearly 18 months ago. Microsoft has promised to pay Activision a $3 billion breakup fee if the deal doesn’t close by July 18.

The case was an important test for the FTC’s heightened scrutiny of the technology industry, “Kotick said in a written statement earlier this year to stop Meta from taking over Facebook, parent Meta.

Another judge rebuffed the FTC’s attempt to block the deal. The judge issued an order to address those concerns in a way that would allow the transaction to move forward.

Corley, herself a Biden nominee, expressed skepticism about the FTC’s case during the proceedings, particularly about the hypothetical harms caused if Microsoft were to remove Call of Duty from rival platforms or offer a subpar experience on competing consoles.

“It all comes down again to Call of Duty,” she said. “We’re here because of Call of Duty.”

“Call of Duty is important because it is critical to the success of the company,” Corley said.

“That scrutiny has paid off: Microsoft has committed in writing, in public, and in court to keep Call of Duty on PlayStation for 10 years on parity with Xbox,” she wrote.

“It made an agreement with Nintendo to bring Call of Duty to Switch. And it entered several agreements for to the first time bring Activision’s content to several cloud gaming services.

As antitrust investigations and legal challenges mounted in the U.S. and around the world, Microsoft pledged that Call of Duty would appear on Nintendo’s Switch console, Nvidia’s cloud gaming service and other platforms for at least a decade.

“In many ways you won,” Corley told the FTC’s lead trial attorney on the case, James Weingarten.

“I don’t think we won,” Weingarten responded, saying there was no evidence that the “hastily agreed to” contracts would sufficiently protect the market.

Shares of Activision Blizzard Inc. jumped more than 11% Tuesday on the ruling, a high for the year.

A number of other countries and the European Union have approved the Activision Blizzard takeover, but it still faces opposition from the U.K.’s Competition and Markets Authority. The company was set to challenge that decision at tribunal hearing scheduled for later this month but the FTC’s ruling appeared to have forced a rethink.

The Competition and Markets Authority and Microsoft said they jointly applied to the CMA to put the hearing on hold, saying a “stay of litigation” would be in the public interest while they work out a way to resolve their differences so that the deal can go ahead.

“We stand ready to consider any proposals from Microsoft to restructure the transaction in a way that would address the concerns” outlined in the merger decision, the CMA said in a prepared statement.

Microsoft said that its focus now turns back to the U.K. “While we ultimately disagree with the CMA’s concerns, we are considering how the transaction might be modified in order to address those concerns in a way that is acceptable to the CMA,” President Brad Smith said in a statement.

Canadian regulators are also investigating the transaction and have concluded it is “likely to result” in preventing or lessening competition on gaming consoles, subscription services and cloud-based gaming, according to a letter to Microsoft filed in the U.S. case late last month.

AP Business Writer Kelvin Chan contributed to this report from London.

Microsoft has cleared a regulatory hurdle to buy a Santa Monica’s Activision.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

FOR QUOTES PLEASE CALL 310-573-8074
or email cindy@smdp.com

Collective Mind, Inc
Title: CEO
06/2023 Registrant/Corp/
or names listed on (Date)
the fictitious business name
The registrant commenced
A limited Liability Company
Business is conducted by:
Santa Monica CA 90401
This
Monica Collective Mind, INC.
the registrant(s) is/are Santa
CA 90401.
The full name of
St. Suite 202 Santa Monica
Malone Collective 1247 7th
LOS ANGELES
filed with the County Clerk of
FILING
This statement was
2023132042 ORIGINAL
STATEMENT FILE NUMBER
8
STATEMENT FILED NUMBER

DAILY PRESS to publish,
seq.,
Business and Professions
federal, state, or common
of the rights of another under
name statement in violation
statement does not of itself

THAT DATE. The filing of this
BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO
BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS
THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY
THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN

LOS ANGELES County on 06/15/23
This statement was filed


Santa Monica Daily Press

CLASSIFIEDS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER 2023132042 ORIGINAL FILING
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 06/15/23.
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: The Malone Collective 1247 7th St. Suite 202 Santa Monica CA 90401.
The full name of the registrant(s): Santa Monica Collective Mind, INC. 1247 7th Street Suite 202 Santa Monica CA 90401.
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date) 06/15/23.
Registrant/Corp/LLC Name(s)/Santa Monica Collective Mind, Inc.
Title: CEO

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 06/15/23.
NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq., Business and Professions Code).
SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish: 07/12/23, 07/17/23, 07/24/22, 07/31/22

CALL TODAY AND PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED

CALL TODAY AND PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED

office (310) 458-7737

DBA

Furniture
Creative
Announcements

News

1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401
LOCATION
HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
WEBSITE: smdp.com
EMAIL: cindy@smdp.com

Interior Design
Real Estate
Computer Services

Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm

970 3rd Street, Suite 200, Santa Monica, CA 90403

Santa Monica Daily Press

HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
LOCATION: 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401

FOR QUOTES PLEASE CALL 310-573-8074
or email cindy@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press

INSIDE
THE DAILY PRESS
PODCAST
smdp.com/pod

ALSO AVAILABLE ON

MICROSOFT

LOGO: Microsoft has cleared a regulatory hurdle to buy a Santa Monica’s Activision.
SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY’S SUDOKU

Sudoku
Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY’S SUDOKU

PUZZLES

TODAY’S BIRTHDAY (July 12)

Aries (March 21-April 19). Because each individual is unique, the chemistry between people is unpredictable. You never can tell how energy will combine until everyone is in the same room. Throw the theories out the window and go for a real-life experience.

Taurus (April 20-May 20). There’s no digital bandit that can steal your time today because you’re too busy doing something in the real world to let imposing distractions win. All detours will be of your own choosing.

Gemini (May 21-June 21). There’s an art to seizing the day. It’s all in the grip — strong enough to hang on, but not so strong it constrains the spontaneous flow of movement. You have just the right touch.

Cancer (June 22-July 22). Circumstances that seem fixed offer hidden options. Don’t accept what’s presented. Get creative. Poke around. Be bold. The alternatives are there for those who decide to find them. You always have choices.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). Passionate energy is fueling a chase, though it’s more strategic than fast. All the thrill will be in the approach. Once the prize is attained, the excitement will be over, so take your time and enjoy the unfolding.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You may be drawn to someone older. This has to do with your love of learning and your need to grow in a certain area. A guide with experience will usher you just where you want to go.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 21). Most things about relationships are about as wonderful (or annoying) as you allow them to be. Seemingly accidental happenings shimmer with a glittery dusting of hope. Love feels destined.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Here comes a challenge. You’re in just the mood to accept. You may even raise the stakes to make things more interesting. In the end, this isn’t about who wins the game, rather it’s about how you play.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have no desire to show people how awesome you are because you would much rather reveal to people how awesome they are. You will shine a light on others and they will bask in your warmth.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Spread your attention around today. If you place too much expectation on one person or subject, life falls out of balance. It’s not the worst thing to tumble in this way, but it’s also not particularly productive.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Hug fear while it’s real. Listen to its voice — not because it’s accurate or true but because it wants to be heard. After it’s had its say, the charge will disperse and fear will dissipate like mist.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20). If you knew the rest of the week would bring about the same vibe as today, what would you change? Instead of fantasizing about a different circumstance, you’ll actively shift and elevate the current vibe.

A year characterized by playfulness and warmth. You’ll devote hours of practice to gaining a valuable skill you can apply in many areas of life. You’ll also build a dependable crew to do an important job and wind up doing many more. A high-profile performance will net attractive offers. You’ll ride a trend to lucrative result. Libra and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 15, 6, 13 and 24.

CROSSWORD PUZZLES

ACROSS
1 Person not quite 20
5 Baby boys, to moms
9 Aspirin tablet
13 Synagogue leader
15 Ballerina’s skirt
16 Soprano’s solo
17 Modern folklore
19 Prohibited thing
20 Twisty letter
21 The Dalai ___
22 Makes a hard copy of
24 Yuletide wise men
25 Low in fat
26 Whodunits’ literary category
30 Tater Tots maker
32 Not punctual
33 Purse or satchel
35 Pekoe and Earl Grey
36 Sing with lips closed
37 Tiny skin opening
38 Toy gun ammo
39 Place for a vane
41 Get ___ of the action
43 Ancient stories with morals
46 London art gallery
47 Lyt’s ridesharing rival
48 Fencers’ weapons
51 City of Yemen
52 Sch. with a Harrisburg campus
55 Citizen ___
(Welles film)
56 Mother Goose stories
59 Ancient Andes native
60 Storybook brute
61 Triangular traffic sign
62 Search for
63 Optimistic

DOWN
11 Clothes dryer residue
12 Vietnam neighbor
14 Embedded, as tiles
18 Molten rock in a volcano
23 Evaluate
24 3-D medical scans
25 Actor Neeson
26 Discontinue
27 Trivial things
28 Bassoons’ cousins
29 Anti-drug cop
30 Local wagering locale: Abbr.
31 Country singer McEntire
34 “Amazing!”
36 Vacuum cleaner tube
37 Where a ship docks
39 Highway or street
40 Decides on
41 Home for monks
42 Abundant supply
44 Run of consecutive wins
45 Hepburn of My Fair Lady
48 Glides on snow
49 Decrease gradually
50 Just a single time
51 Ventilates
52 “Not guilty,” for example
53 Auction off
54 Beef inspection agcy.
56 Long, long ___
58 Feel unwell

TODAY’S BIRTHDAY

HOROSCOPES
**FIND THE WORDS**

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 15 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

**Roadtrip from Adelaide**

```
R L K R A M N E R O C K S C H
U E O W A K A P U N D A T I Y
G D I O C E A N D A V O N T R
G N O L W G W R N E D R F Y A
E A B D I H G H R E A R L
D L E L A V E C E D U N A I O
I S E R I R A S E S A B R O N
V I F N F P E N E G A R U O C
E Y G O Y R V I S L E E T R R
R B N A V A R A C B T S A O C
S X P O L N O M L A S W A R O
E O I L K I K I I E L T R R V
T R E H A R O L F T S G R O E
L Y N D O C H D F U E H U B S
S N O R K E L I S B L L B E S
```

**Solutions to Yesterday’s Words Puzzle.**

- Ache
- Courage
- Lyndoch
- Roxby
- Agile
- Coves
- Mild
- Island
- Avon
- Crawl
- Oats
- Salmon
- Base
- Danger
- Ocean
- Sleet
- Beef
- Diverse
- Olary
- Snorkel
- Berri
- Driving
- Orroro
- Surf
- Burra
- Eden Valley
- Pyap
- Tod
- Bute
- Flora
- Rain
- Reservoir
- Caravan
- Glacier
- Rare
- Wharf
- Ceduna
- High
- Renmark
- Wine
- City
- Kapunda
- Robe
- Wool
- Cliffs
- Ki Ki
- Rocks
- Coast
- Long
- Rugged

*Rewarding work*
What's Up
out and about in Santa Monica

WednesDay | july 12
TweEn WrItIng Workshop Sers
Join Wittopia Lab for a series of writing workshops for tweens led by produced playwrights and published authors. Attendees participate in exercises designed to develop creative writing skills and can receive feedback on their work from both their peers and instructors. For ages 10-15. July 12: Fiction, July 19: Poetry, July 26: Memior Main Library, Children’s Activity Room

thursDay | july 13
santa monica public library board meeting
The Library Board consists of five members appointed by the City Council for a four-year term. The Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:00 P.M. at the Main Library, Administrative Conference Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica. The public is welcome to attend. Current and past agendas and minutes are available on smpl.org.

Friday | July 14
Open Mic Music
Open mic music every Friday from 7pm to 10pm. At Unurban coffeehouse 3301 pico Blvd Santa Monica ca. 90405. Open to all ages no alcohol, open to all. With a professional sound system and lighting system now. Just come in and play. Tickets will for sale for the event until there is no more room. You get 2 songs or ten mins.

Movies In The Park
Join organizers at Virginia Avenue Park (2200 Virginia Ave.) for Movie Night! They will be playing Wakanda Forever. Mats & snacks will be provided for the first 150 guests. Feel free to bring your own snacks, drinks, blankets/chairs if you would like. This event is in partnership with Providence Medical Group and free healthcare screenings will be available. Movie starts at 7:30p.m. Reserve free tickets online at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/movies-in-the-park-tickets-672732369627

sunday | july 16
Shark Feeding
Feast on a little knowledge while our swell sharks, horn sharks, and round stingrays chow down. Come and watch the Aquarium staff feed these important keystone species and learn about the part sharks play in marine ecosystems, every Sunday at 1 pm and 3 pm.

monDay | july 17
santa monica arts commission
The Arts Commission of the City of Santa Monica exists to ensure a regular and ongoing assessment of arts programs in the City, develop arts programs of innovative form, recognize and encourage the arts as a service of local government and enrich the lives of all citizens by exposure to art in its various forms. Civic Center Parking Structure. 333 Civic Center Dr Santa Monica, CA.

saturday | july 15
pick Me silly!
Whether you like your pickles sweet or sour, this event is sure to be a big Dill. There will be a demonstration on making Full Sour Dills as well as materials on hand for all little hands to make a small jar of quick pickles. Cool Cucumbers hang out in July. Will you we dare make Pickle Pancakes? You can bet your gherkin that you will. Event can be found on our website at: https://santamonica.gov/events/pickle-me-silly Sponsored by City of Santa Monica Community Garden Program Ishihara Park Learning Garden,

For help submitting an event, contact us at 310-458-7737 or submit to events@smdp.com

surf report
WEDNESDAY POOR TO FAIR SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh
THURSDAY FAIR SURF: 2-3ft Thigh to waist

Weather
Wednesday: Patchy dense fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing.
Wednesday Night: Patchy dense fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 63.
Thursday: Patchy dense fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 79.
Thursday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 64.

Date  Day  Time (LST/LDT)  Predicted (ft) High/Low
2023/07/12 Wed 01:05 AM 0.53 L
2023/07/12 Wed 07:20 AM 3.19 H
2023/07/12 Wed 11:41 AM 2.25 L
2023/07/12 Wed 11:41 AM 2.25 L
2023/07/13 Thu 06:33 PM 5.84 H
2023/07/13 Thu 08:00 AM -0.01 L
2023/07/13 Thu 08:35 AM 3.37 H
2023/07/13 Thu 12:35 PM 2.52 L
2023/07/13 Thu 12:35 PM 2.52 L
2023/07/14 Fri 07:08 PM 6.00 H
2023/07/14 Fri 09:45 AM 0.38 L
2023/07/14 Fri 09:25 AM 3.55 H
2023/07/14 Fri 1:25 PM 2.66 L
2023/07/14 Fri 7:50 PM 6.11 H
2023/07/15 Sat 03:23 AM -0.58 L
2023/07/15 Sat 10:04 AM 3.67 H
2023/07/15 Sat 10:40 AM 3.67 H
2023/07/15 Sat 11:49 PM 2.69 L
2023/07/15 Sat 8:29 PM 6.17 H
2023/07/16 Sun 03:58 AM -0.65 L
2023/07/16 Sun 10:38 AM 3.73 H

WATER TEMP: 68.0

daily lottery

TUESDAY | July 18
Drop-In Event: Hands-Only CPR
The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health is coming once a month to provide drop-in hands-only CPR training. Come anytime between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., it only takes about 10 minutes to complete the training This training is:
- A life-saving skill that will help you feel more confident to respond in an emergency.
- CPR without mouth-to-mouth breaths
- Only to be used on teens or adults
- No documents are required from anyone who would like to be trained.

Daily Lottery

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailer. Visit the California State Lottery website at http://www.calottery.com

Knee to thigh
1-2 ft
Thigh to waist
2-3 ft

$68,000
$3,000
Check out SMDP's NEW event calendar

A complete list of all the happenings in the City of Santa Monica and surrounding areas!
Visit smdp.com/event or scan the code

FIND ALL EVENTS INCLUDING

• MUSIC EVENTS  • LIBRARY EVENTS  • HAPPY HOURS
• CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS  • AND MORE!