LA harbor commission awards \$209K to San Pedro, Wilmington organizations

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The Los Angeles harbor commission on Thursday, Nov. 5, awarded more than \$209,000 to organizations for environmental projects intended to benefit Wilmington and San Pedro.

"The grants awarded this year are going to an impressive group of organizations with a strong commitment to making an immediate and real impact on the health and sustainability of our port communities," harbor commission President Jaime Lee said. "We look forward to seeing the results of these programs in the months ahead."

The four grant recipients approved through the Harbor Community Benefit Foundation were:

- Los Angeles Walks, which received \$75,000 to implement the Safe Streets Community Promotora Education Program, in
 partnership with Best Start Wilmington, to train people to serve as educators on safe street infrastructure, and to improve
 local air quality and create safer walkways;
- Wilmington Community Clinic, which received \$34,169 for personnel support for an asthma program;
- South Bay Center for Counseling, which received \$60,000 to convert a vacant lot into an urban community green space, which will allow residents to grow plants, have access to healthy produce and participate in healthy activities; and
- Sharefest Community Development Inc., which received \$40,000 to develop a youth engagement program for students at a local continuation high school. The program will introduce students to port-related issues and teach skills such as tree planting, landscaping and other activities

The Harbor Community Benefit Foundation administers the Port Community Mitigation Trust Fund, established to address issues in Wilmington and San Pedro. Including today's grant awards, the port and HCBF have awarded more than \$6.5 million in grants and contracts, port officials said.

Los Angeles Walks was founded in 1998 and advocates for pedestrian infrastructure.

Wilmington Community Clinic is a low-cost medical facility with two locations.

South Bay Center for Counseling was founded in 1973 and its mission, according to its website, is to empower "communities across Los Angeles County to discover and develop tools through active individual and collective well-being."

Sharefest is a nonprofit founded in 2003 that helps under-served students and local communities throughout the South Bay, Harbor Area and Long Beach.

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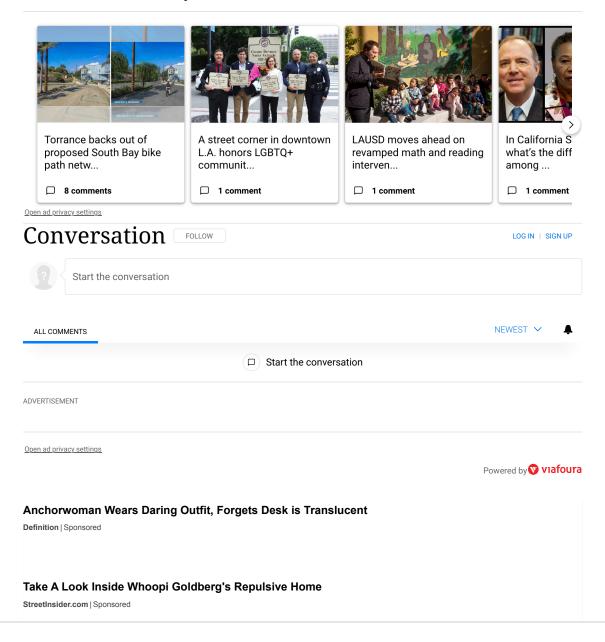


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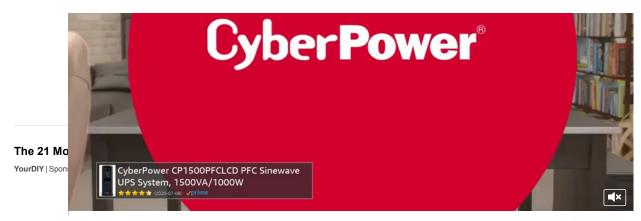
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