

# An Environmental Affair

Volume 16, Issue 12

December 2005

The City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department was established in 1990 to advise the city on environmental issues and provide a centralized source of environmental information. The Environmental Affairs Department seeks to protect and enhance the environmental quality of life for residents, workers and visitors in the City of Los Angeles.

## Clean Cities Coalitions Celebrate Energy Awareness Month

More than a Billion Gallons of Gasoline Saved by Alternative Fuel Use

During October, the Los Angeles Clean Cities Coalition, in partnership with the Southern California Association of Governments Clean Cities Coalition and other local Clean Cities coalitions, celebrated Energy Awareness Month and the fact that more than one billion gallons of petroleum have been



conserved over the last 10 years due to the use of alternative fuel. Regional Clean Cities Coalitions celebrated this milestone event by pumping a symbolic billionth gallon of alternative fuel in vehicles. Nancy Sutley, City of Los Angeles Deputy Mayor for Energy and the Environment, delivered an associated Mayoral Proclamation and led key City officials in the symbolic pumping event. Also

acknowledged were key City of Los Angeles department heads and regional Clean Cities Coordinators and partners for their contribution to the billion gallons of gasoline conserved. Clean Cities representatives are pictured to the left.

*From left to right are: Scott Fischler, Coordinator, Coachella Valley; Heloise Froelich, Coordinator, Los Angeles (city of); JoAnn Armenta and Tanna Manford, Coordinators, Southern California Association of Governments, Detrich B. Allen, Chair, Los Angeles (city of) and General Manager, Environmental Affairs Department; Suzanne Seivright, Asst. Coordinator, Western Riverside County; and Richard Steinhaus, Asst. Coordinator, Long Beach (city of).*

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## EAD Metal Finishing Workshop

The City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department (EAD) recently held a pollution prevention and regulatory compliance workshop for the City's metal finishing and metal plating industry on November 3, 2005. The Department's Environmental Business and Neighborhood Services Division (EBNS) invited guest speakers from the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), the South Coast Air Quality Management Board (SCAQMD), and the Bureau of Sanitation's Industrial Waste Management Division to discuss various pollution prevention (P2) techniques or methodologies for the industry in their area of expertise. The speakers relayed the message that employing some of these pollution prevention principals can lead to significant cost savings for a company by reducing its raw



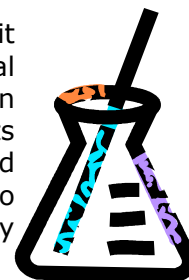
*(Metal Finishing Workshop...Continued on page 7)*

An Environmental Affair is produced monthly by the EAD to inform residents about environmental issues and activities in Los Angeles. For questions, or to update or cancel your free subscription, call the Environmental Information Center Hotline at (213) 978-0888, send an e-mail to: [eadinfo@mailbox.lacity.org](mailto:eadinfo@mailbox.lacity.org), or visit our website at <http://www.lacity.org/ead>. TDD (213) 978-0899. You can also reach us by fax at (213) 978-0893. As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities.

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PLEASE POST

## Calling All Students— Kenneth G. Hancock Award in Green Chemistry Competition Now Open

The Green Chemistry Institute (GCI), a not-for-profit 501 (c) corporation within the American Chemical Society (ACS), has been devoted to promoting green chemistry, which is the design of chemical products and processes that reduce or eliminate the use and generation of hazardous substances. GCI works to address global issues at the intersection of chemistry and the environment.



GCI invites all students to participate in its Kenneth G. Hancock Awards Program. Nominations received for the award are judged by members of the ACS Division of Environmental Chemistry. One award is given annually. The deadline for entering the competition is **February 1, 2006**. For more information visit [www.chemistry.org/greenchemistryinstitute](http://www.chemistry.org/greenchemistryinstitute), call Dr. Marty Kirchhoff at (202) 872-4562, or Kathryn Parent at (202) 872-6102.

## Recycle Your Christmas Tree!



Please recycle your tree by cutting and placing it in your green yard trimmings container. If you are unable to use your green container, you also may recycle your tree by bringing it to one of the drop-off sites listed below. Before recycling your tree, please remove all ornaments, decorations, tinsel and stand. Trees left at curbs or in alleys and streets cannot be collected. Per Los Angeles Municipal Code 57.21.06, it is illegal to leave trees at the curb or on street due to extreme fire hazard. For more information call (800) 773-2489.

**En Español** - Por favor recicle su árbol de Navidad con cortándolo y poniéndolo en el bote verde. Si por alguna razón no puede ponerlo en su bote verde, también puede llevándolo alguno de los sitios de reciclamiento. Antes de reciclar su árbol, favor de quitarle todas las decoraciones y el estante. Los árboles dejados en las banquetas y callejones no serán recogidos. El Código Municipal 57.21.06 prohíbe que se tiren árboles en las calles debido o en las banquetas al peligro de incendio.

LOS ANGELES ZOO  
At Griffith Park, Junction Of  
Golden State (5), & Ventura (134) Frwys

HARBOR CITY  
Harbor Regional Park  
25820 Vermont Avenue

SUNLAND  
Sunland Park  
8651 Foothill Boulevard

ARLETA  
Branford Park  
13300 Branford Street

HIGHLAND PARK  
Highland Park Senior Citizen Center—6200 York Boulevard

SYLMAR  
Sylmar Park  
8651 Foothill Boulevard

BOYLE HEIGHTS  
Hollenbeck Recreation Center  
415 South St. Louis Steet

HOLLYWOOD  
Hollywood Bowl  
2301 North Highland Boulevard

VENICE  
Oakwood Recreation Center  
767 California Avenue

CHATSWORTH  
Chatsworth Park South  
22360 Devonshire Street

RANCHO PARK  
Cheviot Hills Recreation Center— 2551 Motor Avenue

WESTCHESTER  
Westchester Municipal Building  
7166 West Manchester Avenue

CRENSHAW  
Rancho Cienega Recreation Center—5001 Rodeo Road

SOUTH LOS ANGELES  
South Park  
345 East 51st Street

ENCINO  
Balboa Sports Center  
17015 Burbank Boulevard

SOUTH LOS ANGELES  
Algin Sutton Recreation Center—8800 South Hoover Street

## Green Team LA

Green Team LA partners recently gave a presentation regarding their program to childcare professionals at the Fall 2005 Early Child Care Professionals Conference at California State University, Northridge (CSUN) sponsored by the Child Care Resource Center (CCRC) on November 5, 2005. The presentation was made to childcare facility professionals to inform and solicit their participation in the Green Team LA program. Green Team LA speakers gave brief presentations on indoor air quality hazards, non-pesticide alternatives, and lead poison hazards. Participants were encouraged to sign up to get a more thorough presentation of these and other topics at their facilities.



Colleen Callahan from American Lung Association gives a presentation to childcare professionals.

Launched in May of 2005, Green Team LA is a multi-agency educational taskforce consisting of both government agencies and non-profit organizations. Green Team LA includes the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Affairs Department, the Office of the City Attorney, Physicians for Social Responsibility, and the American Lung Association of Los Angeles County. Green Team LA's goal is to educate licensed childcare facilities and the families they serve

about environmental hazards and extend this awareness into safe practices in the facility and home. The program strives to address the issue that young children, particularly preschool aged, have the greatest susceptibility to environmental risks due to their stage of development. Green Team LA is a voluntary and non-regulatory program open to all licensed facilities in the City of Los Angeles.

For more information about Green Team LA, please go to <http://www.la-cares.com/> or call 1-800-LACARES.

## Diaprepes Root Weevil Quarantine

A 1.5 square mile quarantine zone has been established by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) in Long Beach due to an infestation of Diaprepes root weevil, or Citrus Root weevil, an exotic pest that threatens more than 270 species of plants. This follows an infestation of the pest announced in Newport Beach. It is unknown if the two infestations are related.

To date, Diaprepes root weevils have been detected at 14 locations in Long Beach's Spinnaker Cove area, just south of Cal State Long Beach. CDFA continues to survey for the pest in Long Beach, in addition to Newport Beach and a number of communities in between. The quarantine zone, which is in the southeastern corner of Long Beach, has been established to regulate the movement of plants, green waste and soil from the area. Disposal options for green waster are currently being evaluated. CDFA also is evaluating options for management of the Diaprepes root weevil population. It may take three to five years to eradicate the pest.

Diaprepes root weevils are native to the Caribbean, have generally infested Florida and also have infested a part of Texas. Adult weevils feed on the leaves of plants and their larvae plunge underground and feed on plant roots. Left unchecked, the pest could damage urban and rural landscaping, the nursery industry, and significant portions of California's fruit and vegetable output, including citrus, a favorite of the pest.

Diaprepes root weevils are black with distinctive orange, yellow or gray markings on their backs. For more information, please link to CDFA's website, [www.cdfa.ca.gov](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov), and to report suspicious bus, call (800) 491-1899.

\$ \$ \$ FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES \$ \$ \$

Visit <http://www.lacity.org/ead> for more grant opportunities.

**Arbor Day Poster Contest** This contest activity is open to all California fifth grade children assisted by their teachers, parents, youth or club leaders. The free curriculum kit contains suggestions for activities and projects that will increase student awareness and appreciation of the importance of trees and conservation of forests. The contest theme for 2006 is "Trees are Terrific...in All Shapes and Sizes." These activities are correlated to California's science standards! To request a kit, contact Kay Antunez, contest coordinator, California Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection at (916) 653-7958 or Kay. Antunez@fire.ca.gov. To learn more about Arbor Day, log on to The National Arbor Day Foundation Web site at <http://www.arborday.org/>. The deadline for applications is **Wednesday, March 1, 2006**.

**Corporation for National & Community Service, Learn and Serve America Grant**

The purpose of this grant competition is to promote the development and sustainability of high-quality community-based service-learning programs in youth-serving community organizations. Funds will be used by intermediary organizations to create curriculum materials; support training and technical assistance activities; make subgrants to local organizations that will implement service-learning programs for youth ages five to seventeen; and strengthen, expand, and anchor a network of youth-serving community-based organizations that implement service-learning programs. The application deadline is **Tuesday, March 7, 2006**. For more information, email Brad Lewis at [LSAcommunity@cns.gov](mailto:LSAcommunity@cns.gov) or call (202)-606-7510.

**Young Naturalist Awards** The American Museum of Natural History presents a research-based essay contest for students to promote participation and communication in science. The Young Naturalist Awards program invites students to plan and conduct their own scientific expedition that will provide questions, data, observations and conclusions on a topic in the field of biology, Earth science or astronomy. You do not have to travel far from home. You can take your expedition to a park, a lake, stream, beach, backyard or through the lens of a telescope as you look at the planets and stars. For more information, visit <http://www.amnh.org/youngnaturalistawards>, email

[yna@amnh.org](mailto:yna@amnh.org) or call (212) 496-3498. Grade: 7-12. Applications are due by **Friday, January 6, 2006**.



**EPA Grant for Study and Analysis of Strategies for the Technology Innovation in the Transportation Sector**

The EPA is announcing a grant for the study and analysis of innovative strategies for encouraging the development and adoption of new vehicle and fuel technologies for control of emissions including consideration of impact on criteria pollutants, toxic emissions and greenhouse gas emissions. Studies and analyses should consider barriers for technological innovation and opportunities for overcoming these barriers. The application deadline is **Wednesday, December 14, 2005**. For more information, visit <http://www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/EPA/OGD/GAD/EPA-OAR-DOD-05-19/Grant.html>.

**Department of Energy (DOE) Industrial Assessment Center Project**

DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) Golden Field Office (GO) is soliciting applications for Industrial Assessment Centers (IACs or Centers). The IAC Program enables small and medium sized manufacturers (those with energy costs between \$100,000 and \$2.5 million per year) to have comprehensive assessments performed at no cost to the manufacturer. Teams of engineering faculty and students from the Centers conduct assessments and provide training to help regional manufacturers operate more efficiently and improve competitiveness. For more information, visit <https://e-center.doe.gov/iips/faopor.nsf/UNID/EF9F07FCCC4B6F4D8525703E006D1794?OpenDocument>. The application deadline is **Tuesday, January 17, 2006**.

**Target All-Around Scholarship Program** High school seniors and college students age 24 and younger. The Target All-Around Scholarship Program is unique, as it recognizes volunteer work as well as academic achievement. Target is proud to be able to thank and reward any student who makes the grade at such a high level in the community. For more information, visit [http://target.com/target\\_group/community\\_giving/scholarships.jhtml](http://target.com/target_group/community_giving/scholarships.jhtml).

# DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## EACH MONTH:

(EAD recommends contacting event sponsor prior to event)



### IMAX Theater Presents Wild Safari 3D: A South African Adventure

Join the search for the "Big Five" animals of the African grasslands—the elephant, the Cape buffalo, the rhino, the leopard, and the lion. Once considered the most dangerous animals in Africa, they are among the most spectacular and exciting animals on the planet. *Wild Safari 3D* puts you in the passenger seat of a South African Safari vehicle using the most advanced live-action 3D cinematography available today. South African zoologist Liesl Eichenberger is your guide, presenting important information about each animal and their habitats. The drama unfolds as if you are actually there in the jeep — unaware of what you will find over the next hill or around the next turn. Charging elephants, hungry lions, elusive leopards are all part of the adventure as you experience the plight of creatures and their resurgence from the brink of extinction. Call the IMAX Theater at (213) 744-7400 for show times, or visit <http://www.californiasciencecenter.org/Imax/Features/Features.php>. The IMAX Theater is located in Exposition Park at 700 State Drive in Los Angeles.

**California Science Center Special Small Exhibit "Stem Cells and You"** will be featured at the Science Center from **September 1, 2005, through January 2, 2006.**



The exhibit addresses the questions of "What is a stem cell?", "Stem Cells in Medicine" and "Why study stem cells?". Free with admission. For more information, visit the California Science Center's website at [www.californiasciencecenter.org](http://www.californiasciencecenter.org) or call (323) SCIENCE. The California Science Center is located in Exposition Park, at 700 State Drive in Los Angeles.

### Children's Nature Institute (CNI) Family Walks



CNI docents will lead families with babies, toddlers and children up to eight-years old on exciting educational outdoor adventures. Walks are two hours long with many fun and educational activities. Children will search for animal homes and hideaways, listen for animal activity, mimic the sounds of nature, sing songs, smell and touch plants, learn how to treat plants and animals respectfully, learn about colors, shapes and sizes in nature and more. Family Nature Walks are scheduled on weekdays and weekends at over 40 kid-safe sites in Los Angeles and Ventura

The EAD website, located at [www.lacity.org/EAD](http://www.lacity.org/EAD), contains updated information on this month's events. To ensure your event is included in our monthly newsletter, submit information to the editor by the 10th of each month prior to publication. After the 10th, events can be entered into our website calendar only.

The EAD reserves the right to edit all submittals and does not necessarily endorse the events listed. All events are subject to change, so call listed event contacts to verify information.

Counties year-round. Many sites are stroller accessible. Reservations are required. Suggested donation is \$7 per family with discounts for members. For more information on walk schedules and locations, contact CNI at (310) 860-9484, or visit their website at [www.childrensnatureinstitute.org](http://www.childrensnatureinstitute.org).



### Down-by-the-River Walks

Friends of the Los Angeles River and the Sierra Club are sponsoring monthly walks along the banks of the LA River. Join them at 4:30 pm on the third Sunday of each month for an informal, leisurely, hour-long walk. The walk is canceled if it rains. For more information, visit the FoLAR website, [www.folar.org](http://www.folar.org), or call FoLAR at (323) 223-0585.

## THIS MONTH: (continued)

### All Month Long

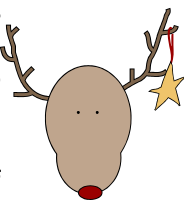
#### Downtown on Ice at Pershing Square



Downtown Los Angeles' Pershing Square will host this holiday season's premier outdoor ice rink. This 50' x 90' attraction will serve as a recreational activity for children and adults to enjoy. Skating runs **through January 16, 2006**, Mondays through Thursdays, noon to 9 pm, and Fridays through Sundays, 10 am to 10 pm. The holiday fun takes place at Pershing Square, 532 S. Olive Street, Downtown Los Angeles \$9 per hour. For more information, contact the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks. (888) LA PARKS (527-2757), or visit [www.laparks.org](http://www.laparks.org).

#### Reindeer Romp

Santa's Reindeer fly into the L.A. Zoo for Thanksgiving and stay until after the New Year. Kids of all ages can get up close to these beautiful creatures, talk to zookeepers, and make their own antlers and holiday crafts. Santa and friends will be available for souvenir photos and guests can ride the L.A. Zoo Choo Choo train. The Reindeer Romp takes place **through January 1, 2006**, from 10 am to 4 pm. The Los Angeles Zoo is located at 5333 Zoo Drive in Los Angeles. Free with paid admission, \$9 Adults, \$4 Children (2-12). For general information, call



323/644-4200 or visit [www.lazoo.org](http://www.lazoo.org).

#### Weekend Tidepool Walks at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium (CMA)

CMA Education staff will conduct tours of the Point Fermin Marine Life Refuge during weekend low tides. Attend an informative slide show in the John M. Olguin Auditorium, then come along on a naturalist-led ramble on the rocks. Life ranging from simple sea anemones to mussels, sea stars, crabs and tidepool fishes are revealed. Outdoor clothing and sneakers advised. Fee: \$1. Reservations required for groups. Contact the Aquarium for more information at (310) 548-7562, or visit [www.cabrilloaq.org](http://www.cabrilloaq.org). The Aquarium is located at 3720 Stephen White Drive in San Pedro.



**Magic: The Science of Illusion** will be at the California Science Center **through Saturday, Dec. 31**. Admission is free! Rise in the air on a floating chair! Have famous mentalist Max Maven read your mind! Can your head live without your body? It can at the California Science Center's blockbuster exhibit, Magic: The Science of Illusion. This special exhibit explores the art and science of entertainment magic in a whole new way. For more information, visit <http://www.magicexhibit.org>.

**Saturday, Dec. 17**

**Franklin Canyon Ranch Winter Solstice Hike** Celebrate the Winter Solstice in Franklin Canyon. Hike up a moderate trail, discuss seasonal changes and identify planets and

constellations. Meet at lower ranch parking lot at 3:30 pm. Binoculars optional. 2.5 hours. Sponsored by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA). For more information and directions to Franklin Canyon, call the MRCA at (310) 858-7272. Free.

**Wednesday, Dec. 21**



#### Call Back the Sun

December 21st is the shortest day of the year. Take a moment out of the busy holiday schedule and enjoy an evening at the El Dorado Nature Center in Long Beach, filled with stories, songs, and a blazing campfire. The event takes place from 7-8:30 pm. \$2 per person. The El Dorado Nature Center is located at 7550 E. Spring Street in Long Beach. Call (562) 570-1745 for more information.

**Saturday, Dec. 24**

#### LA County Arts Commission



#### Holiday Celebration

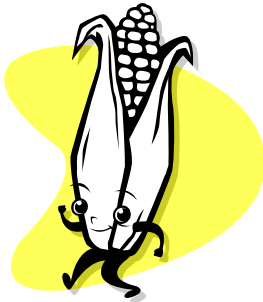
The program honors the spirit of many cultures and holiday traditions through music, song and dance. Community and professional choirs, music ensembles, folk and traditional artists, and dance companies perform in the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. Attendance and parking are free. Doors open at 2:30 pm. Seating is first come, first served. The Dorothy Chandler Pavillion is located in the Los Angeles Music Center, 135 North Grand Avenue in Los Angeles. For more information, call (213) 974-1343.

## Los Angeles County Master Gardener Class for 2006

The Los Angeles County Master Gardener program is a 13-week gardening training program that teaches County residents how to garden successfully. Topics and garden activities will cover basic plant science, propagation, fertilization, irrigation, soil, compost, vegetable and herb and fruit gardening, simple and nutritious vegetable preparation and storage, flowering plants and trees, Integrated Pest Management (diseases, weeds, insects, small animals), tools, how to create community and school gardens, and outreach techniques. Classes meet each Saturday from March 4 through May 17 from 9 am to 4 pm. Participants need to follow up class with 50 volunteer hours and 15 continuing education hours by May 3, 2007.

Applications for the Master Gardener Program are due by January 31, 2006. For more information, call the University of California Cooperative Extension Common Ground office at (323) 260-3348, or visit <http://celosangeles.ucdavis.edu>.

## Not a Cornfield Harvest



Growing in the center of Los Angeles, the Not a Cornfield project has transformed an industrial brownfield site into a cornfield for one agricultural cycle. In late November, the Los Angeles historic State Park, popularly known as 'The Cornfield,' entered its 'gold phase,' when the corn was harvested by volunteers, and moved to another site to be dried out and eventually used for the production of biodegradable containers.

The site will continue to host interpretative tours, Friday night salons, music nights, and drum circles as it enters its post-harvest phase. Public visiting hours are Thursdays through Sundays from 6 am to 8 pm. Interpretative tours take place on Saturdays and Sundays. For more information, visit [www.notacornfield.com](http://www.notacornfield.com).

*(Metal Finishing Workshop...Continued from page 1)*

material usage, lowering the price of waste disposal costs, and decreasing its environmental compliance costs.

Industry professionals learned that by employing basic pollution prevention tenets, their company would save money by:

- ♦ Optimizing the use of raw materials
- ♦ Reducing exposure to liability costs (less likelihood for site remediation, Civil or Criminal fines, etc.)
- ♦ Reducing compliance costs (i.e. permitting fees, testing, hazardous waste transportation, consultants, etc.)
- ♦ Reducing operating costs
- ♦ Reducing energy costs.

Additional benefits include improved worker health and safety for their employees, improved company morale and productivity as well as enhancement of its public image to the community. P2 is a win-win situation for everyone as we all benefit from cleaner air and water and the conservation of our dwindling energy and natural resources.

Since 1988, the EAD's EBNS, through what was formerly known as the Hazardous and Toxic Materials Office, has been helping small to medium-sized businesses maintain their competitive edge, while achieving environmental compliance through industrial pollution prevention.

For further information please go to: <http://www.lacity.org/ead/EADWeb-EBA/htmofof.htm>.



### **HOTLINE CONNECTION**

The Environmental Information Center (EIC) serves as a referral source to the community. Our hotline connection offers a list of the most frequently requested numbers. If the number you need is not listed, please contact the EIC at **(213) 978-0888**. You can also visit our website at <http://www.lacity.org/ead> and click on *Environmental Information Center*.

#### **Air Quality**

*Calidad del aire*

South Coast Air Quality Management District  
(800) 288-7664

#### **Asbestos**

*Asbestos*

Environmental Hygiene  
(626) 430-5100

#### **Bulky Item Pick-up**

*Recogida de articulos grandes*

L.A. City Bureau of Sanitation  
(800) 773-2489

#### **Hazardous Waste/e-Waste**

*Desembolso de materiales peligrosos*

L.A. County Dept. of Public Works  
(888) 253-2652  
L.A. City Bureau of Sanitation  
(800) 988-6942

#### **Housing and Building Complaints**

*Las quejas del construccion y albergar*

Housing Code Enforcement  
(213) 367-9411

#### **Illegal Storm Drain Dumping**

*Depositos en los drenajes de desagües*

Stormwater Management  
(800) 974-9794

#### **Indoor Air or Mold Concerns**

*Aire interior ó preocupaciones de moho*

Environmental Hygiene  
(626) 430-5440

#### **Lead Poisoning**

*Veneno del plomo*

National Lead Information Center  
(800) 424-5323

#### **Leaf Blowers**

*Sopladores de hojas*

Leaf Blower Complaint Line  
(800) 996-2489

#### **Mosquitoes**

*Infestaciones de mosquitos*

L.A. West Mosquito Abatement  
(310) 915-7370

#### **Recycling**

*Reciclaje*

City of L.A. Public Works Dept.  
(800) 773-2489

#### **Smoking Violations**

*Infracciones de fumar*

Office of the City Attorney  
(888) 333-0730

The City of Los Angeles  
Environmental Affairs Department  
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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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