



The Week in Review

City Manager Grace K. Leung
August 23, 2019

Upcoming Events

Friday, August 23
Movie in the Park:
Mary Poppins Returns
Grant Howald Park
3000 5th Ave.
Corona del Mar
6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 25
Concert on the Green:
Queen Nation
Civic Green
100 Civic Center Drive
6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Monday, August 26
Aviation Committee
Meeting
City Hall Community Room
100 Civic Center Drive
5:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 29
Zoning Administrator Mtg.
City Hall, Corona del Mar
Conference Room (Bay1E)
100 Civic Center Dr.
3 p.m.

Monday, September 2
City Hall Closed – Labor
Day

GP Update Steering Committee to Meet in September

Earlier this month, the City executed a contract with Kearns & West (K & W) for community activation and engagement related to the future General Plan Update. City staff met with K & W and we have begun working on materials for the Steering Committee's review and direction. The General Plan Update Steering Committee (GPUSC) will meet on Thursday, September 12, 2019, beginning at 6 p.m., at Marina Park. At this meeting, staff will be confirming the objectives of the outreach program, seeking input on an outline of the outreach program including a community-wide launch event tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 26, 2019, and asking for direction related to branding and messaging for the efforts.

The GPUSC will then meet again on September 25, 2019, at 6 p.m. in the City Council Chambers to further refine the items discussed at its September 12, 2019, meeting.

Now that the consultant has been officially brought on board, the upcoming GPUSC meetings will be very productive and exciting, as we begin to shape the outreach program. The entire community is invited to attend and participate. For additional information, the Committee's page is found [here](#). You can also check out the General Plan Update webpage at www.newportbeachca.gov/gpupdate.

Residential Design Standards Community Meeting Update

On Monday, August 19, 2019, Community Development Department staff held a community meeting to share potential code amendments to address residential design standards. The intent of the amendments are to reduce third floor massing associated with recent residential development trends, height and bulk of single-unit dwellings and duplexes in the Multiple Unit Residential (RM) Zoning District, and incentivize the preservation of beach cottages. The meeting was well attended by over 60 members of the public and design community. Generally, the proposed amendments related to reducing third floor massing

Visit the City's website for a complete listing of meetings and events at
newportbeachca.gov/events.

Tuesday, September 3
Parks, Beaches &
Recreation Committee
City Hall, Council Chambers
100 Civic Center Drive
6 p.m.

and incentives for preservation of cottages were well received and supported by the community. However, several property owners of RM zoned lots shared significant concerns related to the proposed amendment to restrict height and massing of single-unit dwellings and duplex structures in the RM zone, including loss of property values and unequal application of standards to properties in the same zone. Prior to proceeding with the proposed amendments, staff will provide an update to the City Council during study session at their September 10, 2019, meeting.

East Ocean Front Encroachment Community Meeting Update

On Thursday, August 15, 2019, the Community Development Department hosted a meeting to discuss the status of the East Ocean Front encroachments with affected property owners and interested persons. The purpose of the meeting was to explain to property owners how the recent California Coastal Commission's denial of a City proposed Local Coastal Program Amendment that would have allowed some of the encroachments in the East Ocean Front right-of-way to remain, affects them.

Approximately 21 property owners, Planning Division staff and Coastal Commission staff, including Coastal Commissioners Enforcement Supervisor Andrew Willis attended the meeting. The two most important topics of discussion included the status of a City drafted restoration plan that includes a survey of the existing encroachments and specifications for the restoration of beach and coastal dune habitat and the Coastal Commission staff proposal for assessing fines or "back rent" on property owners for the existing encroachments.

Planning Division staff will continue to work with property owners and Coastal Commission staff to facilitate the resolution of this important land use issue.

Coastal Commission September Meeting

The California Coastal Commission will hold their next meeting (September 11-13) in the City Council Chambers at City Hall. The agenda for the meeting will be posted here: <https://www.coastal.ca.gov/meetings/agenda/#/2019/8>

Check back periodically for agenda postings.

Short Term Lodging – Stakeholder Meeting

On September 16, 2019, the Community Development Department will be hosting a stakeholder meeting on the City's Short Term Lodging ordinance. The City is proposing making changes to the ordinance and would like to hear input from all stakeholders. This includes residents, operators, property owners, and managers. The meeting will be held at the Civic Center Community Room at 6 p.m.

Balboa Pier Bike Rack Project

Renovation of the bike rack area adjacent to the Balboa Pier and restrooms has begun. Due to the heavy summer crowds, minimal construction will take place during the last few weeks of summer, which will include concrete saw cutting in preparation of concrete removals. In early September, the old existing bike racks will be removed and new concrete will be poured back in the area. The finished project will accommodate more bicycles and an easier flow of bicycle traffic through the area, while also updating their look and functionality. In addition, this project will include the installation of a bike repair station to assist bicyclists with minor repairs and maintenance of their bikes. The new bike racks and repair station have been ordered and will be installed by the end of September.

Dredging Updates

Channel Place Beach, which is located at the far western end of the harbor in West Newport, was dredged this week. Sand had sloughed from the shoreline area down into the deeper channel, therefore creating a need to replenish the beach. A barge mounted excavator was used to pull the material from the channel area back up to the beach where it was redistributed. The contractor then moved to the 19th Street beach area and dredged the backside of the public pier where navigation was an issue at lower tides. That material was also redistributed back onto the beach as a source of replenishment. Fortunately, beaches at both locations were only impacted by the dredging operation for a couple of days.

Grunion Run Information

As the full moon is a reminder of high tides and beach-spawning fishes, Beach Maintenance crews continue seeing a few California grunion coming onto our shores even as the season winds down. The Public Works staff will continue to stay alert to keep vehicles and mechanized maintenance equipment and operations away from the tide lines for the next few weeks to protect hidden nests under the sand. It is open season, but we still encourage the public to "observe and conserve" or "catch and release" unless you have a use in mind for the fish.

