



# The Week in Review

City Manager Grace K. Leung  
June 12, 2020

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## Upcoming Events

**Monday, June 15**

### **Board of Library Trustees**

City Hall, City Council Chambers  
100 Civic Center Drive  
5 p.m.

[\(See agenda for instructions on how to participate\)](#)

**Thursday, June 18**

### **Planning Commission Meeting**

City Hall, City Council Chambers  
100 Civic Center Drive  
6:30 p.m.

[\(See agenda for instructions on how to participate\)](#)

## To Our Community:

A wide range of additional industries were cleared to reopen today, with modifications to help reduce the spread of COVID-19.

On June 5, the Governor's office announced that additional industry sectors could reopen as early as June 12 with modifications and approval by the health officers of individual counties. The Orange County health officer confirmed Thursday that Orange County will align with the new state guidelines.

The additional sectors permitted to reopen June 12 in Newport Beach and Orange County, with modifications, are:

- Day camps, campgrounds, RV parks and outdoor recreation
- Cardrooms, satellite wagering facilities and racetracks
- Movie theaters and family entertainment centers
- Gyms and fitness facilities
- Hotels for leisure travel and tourism
- Museums, galleries, zoos and aquariums
- Bars and wineries
- Pools

NOT included in the June 12 reopening:

- Organized youth sports
- Outdoor playground equipment
- Nail salons and tattoo parlors
- Indoor playgrounds such as bounce centers, ball pits and laser tag
- Live theater
- Saunas and steam rooms
- Nightclubs
- Concert venues

Visit the City's website for a complete listing of meetings and events at [newportbeachca.gov/events](http://newportbeachca.gov/events).

- Festivals
- Theme parks
- Higher education

Based on the new County and State guidelines, the City of Newport Beach will be moving forward with a modified Junior Lifeguard program and other summer outdoor recreation programs. We will have more information on summer programs shortly.

City staff has begun reinstalling volleyball nets and basketball hoops at City beaches and parks. Tennis and pickleball are now permitted for doubles, with safety guidelines.

Unfortunately, because of the ongoing restrictions on social and community gatherings, the City is unable to issue permits for July 4 fireworks and special events.

[Click here](#) for more information on the state's multi-stage reopening approach and [here](#) for guidance specific to individual industries and activities.

Meanwhile, we are continuing to support our business community as we begin to recover from the COVID-19 shutdowns.

The application window for the **Small Business Relief Grants** opened today, and will stay open through Tuesday, June 16 at 5:30 p.m.

The program provides one-time funding to small businesses located within the City that need financial assistance to aid in their recovery from the temporary loss of revenue due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. The program is being funded by \$2.1 million in federal Coronavirus Relief Fund monies received by the County of Orange and distributed to Newport Beach to use for small business support grant programs.

Qualified Newport Beach businesses may receive grants of up to \$10,000, depending on the number of employees. Precedence will be given to businesses that provide on-site services, including retail businesses, restaurants, and personal service establishments, specifically, hair salons and barber shops, nail salons, day spas, and small gyms and health clubs.

Our Community Development staff is busy issuing permits to restaurants under the **“Fast Track Back to Business” program**. This allows restaurants and retail outlets to use private property, parking lots, sidewalks and public property for expanded operations. For more information on the program, and applications, visit [www.newportbeachca.gov/backtobusiness](http://www.newportbeachca.gov/backtobusiness).

**The City Council this week approved a balanced, \$339 million budget for the 2020-21 fiscal year** that maintains service levels despite a projected drop in revenue due to ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 shutdowns. The City is anticipating revenue decreases from declining sales taxes and transient occupancy (hotel) taxes, as well as revenue from licenses, permits, leases, parking revenues and other charges.

However, I'm pleased to report that the current budget maintains current service levels, critical capital improvement spending, and the City's aggressive payment schedule to CalPERS to reduce future pension liabilities. For more on the City budget, [click here](#).

### **COVID-19 News and Resources**

Please visit [newportbeachca.gov/covid19](http://newportbeachca.gov/covid19) for the latest City news and useful web resources, including information about the federal, state, and county resources available to help [small businesses](#) and [workers](#) that have been financially impacted. We also have a [page of free resources](#) available through the Newport Beach Public Library and local organizations like SCORE, including online learning and business databases. Visit the [Orange County Health Care](#)

[Agency's COVID-19](#) web page for countywide information, including the number of local cases. You can also follow the City on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#), and look for alerts from our City staff on [Nextdoor](#).

### **COVID-19 Cases in Newport Beach**

The County of Orange posts reported COVID-19 cases by city at: <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/novelcoronavirus>.

The number as of June 12, 2020 is 169 cases in Newport Beach out of 8,135 cases total in Orange County. The number of recovered COVID-19 patients countywide is 3,866 as of June 12.

Fortunately, Newport Beach cases have flattened, with only modest day-to-day increases, over the past several weeks.

### **OC COVID-19 Screening and Testing Network**

The Orange County Health Care Agency maintains a growing list of FDA-approved testing sites for County residents who are showing symptoms of COVID-19. If you are showing symptoms, please contact your healthcare provider for testing information first. If you do not have a healthcare provider, visit <https://occovid19.ochealthinfo.com/covid-19-testing-and-screening> for testing information. The SOS Health Center in Newport Beach is an approved community testing site. Call (949) 270-2100 for an appointment

Newport Beach works in partnership with the County of Orange and its testing, tracking and contact tracing program. This coordinated, centralized approach under County oversight is an effective way to monitor and control the spread of the coronavirus in our communities.

### **Interactive Building Permit Dashboard**

The Building Permit Dashboard is an interactive tool to identify all of the issued /active building permits within the city. The map can be filtered by using the "selection tool" or clicking on one or multiple charts for instant feedback on the map. One notable feature is the ability to filter building activity per City Council District. Selecting a Council District will automatically update the number of active permits with the corresponding permit type and project valuation. Additionally, it will display the number of permits issued in the last 10 and 30 days. An address search is available to see if a permit has been issued to a specific property. Each "blue point" on the map can be selected to provide more information regarding that building permit.

The application can be accessed from the Building Division at <https://www.newportbeachca.gov/government/departments/community-development/building-division> or a direct link for the [Desktop Version](#) or [Mobile Version](#). Special thanks to the City's Geographic Information System (GIS) Division for putting this together.

### **Peninsula Point Beach Encroachments**

On June 11, 2020, the California Coastal Commission approved three consent orders that will lead to the resolution of the Peninsula Point beach encroachment issue. Over time, 60-70 abutting property owners installed landscaping and other improvements seaward of their property on the City's public beach in violation of the Coastal Act. Thirty-two property owners agreed to pay administrative penalties totaling approximately \$1.7 million. The City agreed to remove the unpermitted improvements and restore the area to a more natural coastal dune habitat. The work will begin later this year and be completed in phases over the next 2 ½ years. The City will monitor the restored plantings going forward. The Coastal Commission expressed gratitude to the City and property owners for their willingness to address the violations comprehensively. The approval

of the consent orders is a significant milestone in restoring the beach to public use and it serves as a cautionary tale about violations of the Coastal Act.

### **Homelessness Update**

Addressing homelessness continues to be a priority in the City's ongoing COVID-19 response, working closely with contractor City Net and regional partners throughout the county and state. Recently, people in Newport Beach experiencing homelessness have been placed in motels through Project Roomkey, a state initiative to provide shelter during COVID-19. Newport Beach staff and City Net staff are collaborating with the Illumination Foundation, a local non-profit agency working with the state to implement Project Roomkey.

#### Success Stories:

- Staff helped a veteran who was staying by the Balboa Pier move into an apartment in the new Santa Ana Veterans Village. The Santa Ana Veterans Village provides 75 units of supportive housing for military veterans and their families. On-site services include mental health resources, job placement, and employment assessment.
- Four more people were sheltered in hotels this week under the Project Roomkey program.
- Staff completed two Vulnerability Index assessments with people staying near the Newport Transportation Center. The Vulnerability Index Intake Assessment is used to screen clients to determine proper placement in the County's Continuum of Care system. Some assessment factors include age, health issues, and length of time being unsheltered. Case managers will follow up with the clients to provide housing assessments and prepare documentation for housing.

The City Net hotline number is (714) 451-6198. Those who call the hotline may leave a detailed voicemail message for themselves or others in need and City Net staff will respond within 48 hours. For immediate assistance call the County's Crisis Prevention Hotline at (877) 7-CRISIS or (877) 727-4747. To enroll in Project Roomkey, call (714) 834-3000.

### **Street Sweeping**

Street sweeping enforcement will resume June 15, after a temporary suspension in March as part of the COVID-19 response. After two months, the street and gutter build-up of trash and debris has become noticeable on many streets. We recognize that parking is a challenge in many neighborhoods. However, street sweeping is an essential service that removes debris from the streets and keeps pollutants from entering the ocean and waterways. City crews have been regularly picking up trash and hand sweeping gutters, but cannot match the effectiveness of machine sweeping.

