



The Week in Review

City Manager Grace K. Leung

December 14, 2018

Upcoming Events

Fri., Dec. 21

Marina Park Family Fun Night

Marina Park Community Center
1600 W. Balboa Blvd.
5:30 p.m.

Tues., Jan. 8

City Council Meeting

City Hall, City Council Chambers
100 Civic Center Dr.
4 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 10

Zoning Administrator Mtg.

City Hall, Corona del Mar
Conference Room (Bay 1E)
100 Civic Center Dr.
3 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 10

City Arts Commission Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers
100 Civic Center Dr.
5 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 17

Finance Committee Meeting

City Hall, Crystal Cove Conference
Room (Bay 2D)
100 Civic Center Dr.
3 p.m.

General Plan Evaluation and Update Begins

On January 8, 2019, the City Council will conduct an afternoon study session to discuss the City's General Plan. It has been 12 years since the last comprehensive update and it is time to evaluate it to see if there needs to be a course correction. Additionally, changes to State Law requires the General Plan to address new topics. The Housing Element also must be updated by the end of 2021. Community Development staff will provide a summary of the process envisioned, the planned outreach efforts, the community-driven scope, a potential steering committee, estimated costs, and the overall timeline. A draft Request for Proposals (RFP) for a planning consultant will be available and the City seeks feedback.

For more information, please contact James Campbell at 949-644-3210 or jcampbell@newportbeachca.gov.

Finley Tract Resident Parking Permits (RP3)

On December 13, 2018, the City Zoning Administrator held a public hearing and approved a Coastal Development Permit for a resident parking permit program for the Finley Tract. Finley is a residential area on the Balboa Peninsula just west of Lido Village. It was a well-attended meeting and 12 people commented. Employees and patrons of nearby businesses are parking in this residential area and they have impacted the area. The area is unique as it is not near beaches, parks, or other recreational areas where coastal visitors frequent. The program would restrict non-residents from parking in the area and conditions were applied to mitigate any impacts to coastal access. The Finley Tract is within the California Coastal Commission appeal area. After the City's local appeal process, a notice will be sent to the Coastal Commission staff for their review. After that review or appeal, the City Council could consider adopting an ordinance to implement the program. For more information, please contact James Campbell at 949-644-3210 or jcampbell@newportbeachca.gov.

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

Tues., Jan. 22
Board of Library Trustees
meeting
Central Library
1000 Avocado Ave.
5 p.m.

Coastal Commission Approves LCP Clean-up Amendment

On December 12, the California Coastal Commission approved the final part of the City's Local Coast Program (LCP) "Clean-up" Amendment. This amendment would amend the certified LCP Implementation Plan to add a new provision recognizing locally approved modifications and variances, restore existing Zoning Code height limit exceptions in the Shoreline Height Limit Area, allow larger additions to nonconforming structures, and revise language relating to the waiver of future protection in shoreline hazardous areas. In a separate action, the Coastal Commission also concurred with the Executive Director's determination that the City's action on the previous part of the clean-up amendment was legally adequate.

The Coastal Commission meeting (December 12-14) was held in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Diane Dixon welcomed the Coastal Commission back to the City. Her presentation included a video that highlighted City projects to protect coastal access, recreation and resources.

Newport Beach Library named as a Star Library

The Board of Library Trustees is pleased to announce that Newport Beach Public Library was once again named as a Star Library in a national ranking compiled by "Library Journal" in its eleventh edition of the Library Journal of Public Library Service.

In 2018, 7361 U.S. public libraries were scored on the LJ Index of Public Library Service comparing spending peers in five areas: circulation, library visits, circulation, program attendance, public access computer use and e-circulation. Of the 257 named as America's Star Libraries, eleven are in California with just four in Southern California. Newport Beach Public Library is the highest scoring library in Orange County. This is the sixth year in a row, and tenth time in eleven years, that Newport Beach Public Library has been named a Star Library.

Library Services Director Tim Hetheron credits community support and high-quality programs and service for the high ranking, "Newport Beach Public Library is both proud and grateful that our City leadership, support groups, and staff remain committed to our customers by providing quality collections, resources, programs and services, all of which helped us earn the Library Journal Star rating." said Hetheron.

The Newport Beach Public Library serves the community with four locations, including the Central Library and three branches, Mariners, Corona del Mar and Balboa. For more information on Newport Beach Public Library resources and programs, please contact the Library at 949-717-3800, option 2, or visit the website at www.newportbeachlibrary.org.

For more information about America's Star Libraries, visit LibraryJournal.com.

Suspect Arrested for Series of Residential Burglaries

On December 1, the Police Department arrested Aquinas Arrigo Kasbar, an 18-year-old resident of Newport Beach, for a series of Residential Burglaries. After the arrest, detectives obtained search warrants for a number of locations tied to Kasbar (including a storage unit), which lead to the recovery of several hundred thousand dollars' worth of stolen property. Many of these items have been linked to residential burglaries that have occurred in Newport Beach over the last few months. Detectives are working diligently to process the evidence and return the property to the rightful owners.

This week, the Orange County District Attorney filed 16 charges against Mr. Kasbar, including 14 separate Residential Burglary charges. The NBPD anticipates that we will be able to connect Kasbar to additional crimes as the investigation progresses. Inquiries about recovered stolen property can be directed to Detective Sergeant Josh Comte at 949-644-3765.

Goldenrod Avenue Emergency Storm Drain Repair

Public Works has been working with the contractor and community on the storm drain lining project. Recently, Public Works discovered that some storm drain pipes required significant and unforeseen repairs. One of these locations that required emergency work was E. Coast Highway near Goldenrod Avenue, where portions of the metal pipe had collapsed. The contractor was able to repair the damage during the week of December 3 to 6, 2018, with minimal disturbance to the local businesses. The following week, prior to forecasted rains, the contractor installed over 250 feet of structural liner along E. Coast Highway near Goldenrod Avenue and finished one day before the heavy rains. The work was performed at night to prevent traffic congestion in the Corona del Mar Village. Sidewalk repair work will be finishing this week. We thank the community for their continued patience as we complete this important project.

A Winning Project

The technically complex and logistically challenging Park Avenue Bridge Replacement Project was selected as a 2018 winner of the American Public Works Associations Southern California Chapter's B.E.S.T. Awards in the \$5-10 million Transportation category. City project staff along with Councilman Herdman received the Award plaque at the Award Luncheon in Lakewood on December 12. Many thanks to the Little Balboa Island and Balboa Island residents and merchants for their cooperation and understanding in making this project a success.

High Tides and Rain

Last week's rain (Wednesday and Thursday) brought about 3 inches of rain, with most rain intensity falling between 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Most storm drain systems were overwhelmed with the rain intensity during those hours. (The morning high tides in the 7 a.m. hour were not a problem as 32 pumps were stationed on the Peninsula and Balboa Island and kept up with the light rain). After 10 a.m., the tide valves were opened so the drains could flow with gravity just in time for the intense rainfall. The next set of high tides start Thursday, Dec. 20 (6.3 @ 6:49 a.m.), increasing daily to a high on Sunday, Dec. 23 (6.9 @ 8:48 a.m.) and Tuesday, Dec. 25 (6.4 @ 10:22 a.m.). Utilities and Public Works crews will be prepared and respond if rain is forecasted; staff is hoping for clear weather on Christmas Day so they can be home with their families!

Please note: due to the holidays, the next The Week in Review will not be available until Friday, January 11, 2019.

