



The Week in Review

City Manager Grace K. Leung
October 25, 2019

Upcoming Events

Saturday, October 26
**Council Member Brenner's
Town Hall Meeting**
Corona del Mar Fire Station
410 Marigold Avenue
Corona del Mar
9 – 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, October 26
**Newport, Together
Community Fair**
Civic Center Green
100 Civic Center Dr.
11 a.m.

Saturday, October 26
**3rd Annual Halloween
Spooktacular**
Grant Howald Park
3000 5th Ave
4 – 7 p.m.

Saturday, October 26
Happy Hour for Literacy
Friends Meeting Room, Central
Library
1000 Avocado Avenue
6 p.m.

Monday, October 28
Aviation Committee Meeting
City Hall, Community Room
100 Civic Center Drive
5:30 p.m.

Homeless Update

The City Council closed session report from October 22, 2019, directed staff to continue exploring the three options for providing shelter space in Newport Beach. Staff continues to negotiate with regional partners for shelter beds, explore purchasing and converting 4200 Campus Drive into a shelter, and consider retrofitting a space at the City's Corporate Yard at 592 Superior Avenue.

Residents attended a Homelessness 101 presentation facilitated by staff from the Orange County United Way. The presentation covered the financial costs of providing services to unsheltered individuals versus the lower cost of services for sheltered individuals. The causes of homelessness as well as the challenges of overcoming homelessness focused on data from the Orange County Point in Time Count to illustrate the impact on the region. The presentation will be available via NBTv in the coming weeks. Homeless Liaison Officer Yim and City Net staff attended to provide outreach and answer residents' questions.

Newport, Together Website and Newport, Together Community Fair Tomorrow!

In case you have not had the chance yet, we recommend you check out the City's new interactive website at <https://www.newporttogether.com>, which was launched to provide information and to listen and learn from the community. It will serve a very important purpose, as we begin to consider a future update to the community's General Plan. The website will be updated frequently with opportunities to provide feedback and get involved even if you are unable to attend in-person workshops and events. Recent updates include an interactive mapping exercise to show the places that mean the most to you as well as opportunities to tell a story with photos or text that represent things you love about Newport Beach. Check it out and get involved in shaping the future of your community today!

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

Wednesday, October 30

Boat Auction

Marina Park Sailing Center
1600 W. Balboa Boulevard
10 a.m.

Wednesday, October 30

Review of Title 17 Harbor

**Code: Marine Activities
Permits**

Marina Park, Event Room
1600 W. Balboa Boulevard
6 – 8 p.m.

Free Document Shredding

Saturday, November 2

City Corporation Yard
592 Superior Avenue
8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Wed., Nov. 6

**General Plan Update Steering
Committee**

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

Also, don't forget about the fun and free Newport, Together community fair tomorrow, October 26, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the Newport Beach Civic Center Green (100 Civic Center Drive). There will be free TK Burgers while supplies last. Enjoy live music by an acoustic band, family-friendly activities, and lawn games with your neighbors. Several community organizations and City departments will be attending.

The event is the first in a series of community fairs, workshops, pop-up events, and community dialogues to listen and learn from the Newport Beach community about the General Plan and its future update.

Please contact the Community Development Department at 949-644-3200 or gpupdate@newportbeachca.gov with any questions.

SB 2 Planning Grants Program Application Submitted

In March 2019, the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) issued a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) related to the SB 2 Planning Grants Program. Since that time, the City had been working closely with HCD's technical review team to ensure a complete and smooth application process once submitted. In September 2019, the City Council authorized City staff to submit the application to pursue and receive grant funds. As of this week, we are happy to announce that the application was submitted to HCD for review and consideration.

The SB 2 Planning Grants Program is intended to help offset costs incurred by local jurisdictions for the preparation, adoption, and implementation of plans or projects that streamline housing approvals and, thus, may accelerate housing production. The program lists several priority categories for funding, including expedited building permit processing. Currently, the City is working to replace its long outdated permitting and land management system. Once in place, the new system is anticipated to increase efficiency and expedite processing of building permits. The program is not competitive with funding already pre-allocated by jurisdiction based on population size. The City is eligible for a grant of up to \$310,000. If obtained, the grant funds would partially reimburse the cost of the new permitting and land management system.

For additional information on the program, you can visit the State's webpage [here](#).

Cottage Preservation Update

As a result of growing community concerns related to the loss of small residential cottages and the bulk and mass associated with new single- and two-unit dwelling developments in the City, the City Council directed staff in May 2019 to develop a cottage preservation ordinance. Staff has since developed draft amendments to the Municipal Code that would provide an incentive-based option to preserve traditional beach cottages.

The draft amendments were shared with interested members of the public, including architects and designers, during a community meeting held in August, and received overwhelming support. Typically, cottages do not provide all the code-required parking and additions are limited to 10 percent of the existing floor area. The amendments would allow larger additions of up to 50 percent of the existing floor area without providing the minimum code-required parking when the project would result in the preservation of the cottage character and building envelope that is representative of traditional development patterns in the City. Eligible projects would also receive relief from a building code valuation threshold requiring building code compliance as new construction. The Planning Commission reviewed the proposed amendments on October 17, 2019, and voted to continue the item to allow staff additional time to revise certain aspects of the amendments. Requested changes included clarifying the applicability, prohibiting short-term rentals, and reducing the amount of expansion permitted. Staff is preparing these revisions for the Planning Commission's reconsideration at their November 21, 2019, meeting.

Riverside Avenue Project Update

On October 17, 2019, the Planning Commission approved a Conditional Use Permit and Coastal Development Permit to allow the development of an office and parking structure at 215 Riverside Avenue. The application was continued from the August 22, 2019, meeting and the Planning Commission considered over 200 public comment letters in opposition and support of the project. After an extended discussion about minimizing negative land use conflicts and potential uses for surplus parking, the Planning Commission restricted access to the parking structure after 11 p.m., added conditions to improve aesthetic screening elements of the parking structure, and required a six-month review to consider conflicts once the development is occupied. The Planning Commission's approval is subject to a 14-day appeal period ending on Thursday, October 31, 2019. Appeals can be filed through the City Clerk's Office. Following the conclusion of the City's appeal process, the application will be subject to a 10-day appeal period to the California Coastal Commission.

California Wildland Fires - Newport Beach Mutual Aid Response

Due to the wildland fires in northern and southern California, the Newport Beach Fire Department has deployed two engines and a battalion vehicle with nine fire personnel as part of the California Mutual Aid system to assist with fire protection at the Tick Fire in the Santa Clarita area of Los Angeles County. Newport Beach fire personnel are part of multiple Orange County Metro Cities Strike Teams that have been deployed to the fire. Currently, Newport Beach has an additional engine with four fire personnel on stand-by ready for further mutual aid requests.

Civil Engineer Bryan Loo Receives Commendation

Lieutenant Joe Cartwright of the Newport Beach Police Department recently recognized Public Works Civil Engineer Bryan Loo with a Certificate of Commendation for his ingenuity, creativity and continued dedication to his job in Traffic Control Management. Lieutenant Cartwright particularly credited Bryan for his instrumental efforts orchestrating the traffic signal system during the busy Fourth of July firework show at Newport Dunes. Mayor Diane Dixon was also on hand to congratulate Bryan.

Facilities Maintenance Supervisor Receives a Police Chief's Citation

On October 10, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor Rick Scott received a Police Chief's Citation for his safe response and clear thinking during a July 17 incident. While at work, Rick came upon the scene of what would have been a hit and run incident. Not sure if the fleeing vehicle was going to turn back or pull over, he followed the vehicle, took a photo of the license plate, and shared it with the investigating officers at the scene.

The family of the motorist wrote a letter praising Rick for his "courageous efforts and for stepping up in a situation so many others may have made a conscious choice to avoid getting involved." Rick is commended for his safe response and clear thinking during this incident.

