



# The Week in Review

City Manager Grace K. Leung  
November 1, 2019

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## Upcoming Events

### **Saturday, November 2** **Free Document Shredding**

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

### **Tuesday, November 5** **City Council Meeting**

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

[\(Insider's Guide\)](#)

### **Wednesday, November 6** **General Plan Update Steering** **Committee Meeting**

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

### **Thursday, November 7** **Water Quality Coastal** **Tidelands Committee Meeting**

City Hall, Crystal Cove  
Conference Room (Bay 2D)  
100 Civic Center Drive  
3 – 5 p.m.

## **Homeless Update**

Success of the Week: The City's Homeless Liaison Officer received multiple calls last week regarding a woman camping in a concealed area off Old Ford Road for several days. The Homeless Liaison Officer made contact with the woman and together with City Net conducted an assessment. The woman had fled a domestic violence situation in Riverside and was trying to find shelter and return to work. City Net staff found an appropriate domestic violence shelter for her and helped with the intake. The woman was grateful for the assistance and was stabilized.

## **Newport, Together Community Fair a Success!**

Newport, Together officially launched on Saturday, October 26 with about 400 visitors stopping by the community fair at the Community Room and Civic Green. The fair included booths from over 20 Newport Beach community organizations and City departments, free burgers from TK Burgers, live music and lawn games and activities.

The Newport, Together Community Fair showcased boards and activities for participants to learn about Newport Beach's current General Plan and to give their input. Engagement activities included a mapping exercise, a photo booth, and an art project. Participants were given a passport to be stamped at different stations after they provided input at each station and were entered to win a number of opportunity prizes donated by the Newport Beach Chamber of Commerce, the Newport Beach Marriott, and Renaissance Newport.

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. To engage in similar activities digitally and to learn more about Newport, Together, head to [www.newporttogether.com](http://www.newporttogether.com)

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

## **GPU Steering Committee Meeting on November 6**

The General Plan Update Steering Committee (GPUSC) will meet next on Wednesday, November 6, at 6 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. The GPUSC will hear a recap of the October 26 *Newport, Together* community fair and *Listen & Learn* launch event, as well as updates on how the community has been interacting with the engagement efforts. In addition, staff will present an overview of the upcoming workshops that will be held in each council district throughout the months of November and December. Lastly, the GPUSC will review a timeline for the future General Plan update, especially how it relates to the Housing Element's submittal date of October 15, 2021, as required by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). Staff is recommending a draft request for proposals (RFP) be prepared and released soon to begin the update process and to meet the required submittal date.

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](http://www.newportbeachca.gov/gpupdate).

## **RFP Issued for Preparation of CDBG Consolidated Plan**

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued by the Community Development Department, soliciting a consultant to assist the City in preparing the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Consolidated Plan for the 2020-24 planning cycle. Federal funding received by the City from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) must adhere to national objectives of (i) benefitting those with low and moderate incomes, (ii) aiding in the prevention of neighborhood deterioration, and (iii) meeting other urgent community development needs due to natural disasters or other emergencies. The Consolidated Plan outlines the City's goals and strategies in administering its CDBG funds to meet HUD's objectives, during the next five-year cycle. Annually, the City with the help of the consultant, will prepare an Action Plan identifying specific programs and projects that will receive funding to further the goals outlined in the Consolidated Plan.

Proposals are due to the City no later than Friday, November 22, 2019, at 1 p.m. PST, and should be submitted electronically via the City's online procurement system [PlanetBids](#). More information about the CDBG program can be found on the City's [website](#).

## **Open Budget Data Updated Through September 30, 2019**

The City of Newport Beach makes financial information available to review the status of revenues and expenditures. The online Open Budget Portal provides citizens an in-depth and friendly view of the City's financial data including the City's revenue sources, expenditures and the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The site provides users the ability to view the financial data in a table, chart or graph format. For the latest status of revenues and expenditures for the current fiscal year, please click [here](#).

## **River Avenue Landscape Renovations**

The Public Works department's Parks and Trees Division recently completed a redesign of the streetscape landscaping along River Avenue at Balboa Boulevard. This area is frequented by pets and their humans, so the plant palette introduces durable and aesthetically pleasing plant varieties. The renovation involved removing old plant material, retrofitting the irrigation, and installing a variety of several drought-tolerant plant species, including ornamental grasses, agaves, aloes, and "Dragon Trees". To add interest, eighteen "Red Baja" boulders were placed throughout the new landscape.

## **Owl Box Installed to Help Control Vermin Population in City Park**

As part of the City's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies, an owl box was installed in a City Pine tree at Buffalo Hills Park. The box was donated by a local resident.

The purpose of the box is for the owls to reproduce and eventually raise their owlets, increasing their population. Owls are predators of nuisance rodent pests, such as mice, rats and gophers. If successful, the use of rodent traps or baiting (mechanical or chemical approaches) will no longer be necessary at this park area. A pair of Barn Owls will eat as many as 5,000 prey a year!

## **Insider's Guide for the Newport Beach City Council Meeting on November 5, 2019**

Our next City Council meeting is Tuesday, November 5. Items that may be of interest are highlighted below. The entire agenda, and all reports, can be viewed [here](#).

There is no study session for this meeting, so the regular session begins at 7 p.m. and the following are items of note:

- On the consent calendar is a resolution to support a new ballot initiative, "Reducing Crime and Keeping California Safe Act of 2020". This initiative seeks legislative changes intended to prevent crime and enhance safety, addressing some of the impacts from recent law changes such as AB109 (Prisoner Realignment) and Proposition 47 (Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act). The new ballot initiative is supported by several cities and the California Police Chiefs Association.
- Also on the consent calendar is an update to the City's legislative platform. The legislative platform outlines the City's position on legislative matters and serves as a basis for the City to support or oppose various local, state and federal legislation. It was last updated in 2013. The proposed changes includes update or elimination of outdated policy statements and also expands on the Land Use Regulations category to include Housing and additional policy statements to reflect current priority issues such as affordable housing, homelessness, telecommunications facilities siting, and regional housing needs.
- For public hearing is the adoption of the 2019 California Building Standards Codes and California Fire Code with local amendments. Every three years the state adopts new codes and local agencies must adopt the latest codes 30 days prior to January 1, 2020, the effective date of the new codes.
- On current business is consideration to direct the Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission to evaluate the feasibility of a community pool at Lower Castaways Park, as requested by Mayor Dixon. If approved, a feasibility study and community outreach would be conducted as part of the Commission's evaluation.
- The recommendations of the Ad Hoc committee on Election Reform will be considered by Council at this meeting. Following several meetings and a public meeting, the Committee is recommending modifying the regulations governing campaign contribution and expenditure limits and imposing lobbyist registration, reporting and disclosure requirements.

