



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Homer L. Bludau, City Manager

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Dear Fellow Residents:

With this newsletter I would like to inform you about an important agreement the City Council will be considering soon, and discuss some of the services and opportunities the City provides our youth.

Spheres Agreement Proposal: Soon after the 2002 John Wayne Airport Settlement Agreement was reached between the County, the Airport Working Group, Stop Polluting Our Newport (SPON) and the City, the City Council asked staff to identify further ways of protecting the community from impacts of a possible JWA expansion in the future. During that exploration process we identified a number of jurisdictional issues in Newport Beach involving the County of Orange, which we believed would make a good package with which to approach the County. Talks between County and City elected officials and staffs on those issues (we call them "Sphere Issues" because they deal with issues within Newport Beach's Sphere of Influence) have taken place over the past three years. After lengthy negotiations, we think we have drafted an agreement of which our citizens can be proud. This agreement will go before the Newport Beach City Council and the Orange County Board of Supervisors for approval very soon. The key components of the issues combined in the proposed Spheres Agreement are listed below.

1. John Wayne Airport – The Agreement's provisions state:

- If the County ever desires to obtain land (this is not being contemplated) for a second commercial runway for airport expansion, the plans would be submitted to the Newport Beach City Council for its approval/disapproval, and the County would abide by the City Council's determination.
- The City will not annex any portion of JWA or the County's protected "runway protection zone" unless the County consents (this provision reflects what is currently required by State law).
- Through changes to its General Plan and zoning, the City will become a "consistent agency." This means that the City's General Plan and zoning provisions will be consistent with the County's JWA land use plan, particularly in relation to the types and height of buildings the City allows to be built on land in Newport Beach near JWA.
- This Agreement has no affect on the current JWA Settlement Agreement.

Significance – The Spheres Agreement will give the City protection against the serious negative impacts that would result from the addition of a second commercial air carrier runway without affecting the County's ownership or management of JWA. This protection would implement one of the City's key

strategies for controlling JWA impacts that was outlined in the Airport Policy the City Council recently approved and reviewed in my last newsletter.

2. Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve

The Agreement involves the City for the first time in the resource protection, habitat restoration, and educational programs of Upper Newport Bay. As you might know, the Upper Bay is part County-owned, and part State-owned, yet so many of our residents treasure and access the bay right here in our backyard. To make certain that the State, the County, and the City are all on the same page in protecting the Bay, in partnership we will collectively develop a Management Plan for the Upper Bay with extensive stakeholder involvement.

Significance - For the first time, the Upper Bay will be managed by a comprehensive plan which the City and local volunteer groups helped to develop. The City will consider funding to provide the resources for effective Plan implementation once the plan is developed.

3. Lower Newport Bay Services

The Agreement says that the City and County will jointly fund and have prepared a study of harbor-related activities in Lower Newport Bay that would look at where the City and County could realign resources to provide the services at reduced costs, including identifying alternative methods of providing those services. No changes to services could be made unless both parties agree.

Significance - For the first time, the City and County will begin discussions on the services currently being provided in the Lower Bay, with a look toward potentially realigning services that might prove beneficial to Lower Bay users and adjacent property owners.

Until recently, the Spheres Agreement also included provisions that said the City would take on a greater role in administering redevelopment projects in Santa Ana Heights. These provisions were removed from the Agreement late in our discussions, but we hope to obtain a separate agreement with the County dealing with redevelopment within the next six months.

As noted, this agreement will be taken up by our City Council very soon, and we expect that the Orange County Board of Supervisors will have it on its agenda prior to the end of October. During the three years of talks leading up to this agreement, both parties have been motivated by the benefits that realigned City and County responsibilities can bring to residents, harbor and bay users and taxpayers. Agreement provisions provide a framework for better management and protection of our precious Upper Newport Bay, and encourage us to discuss options to realign services in the Lower Bay. The City Council is very pleased to have come this far in developing an agreement with the County that will benefit our relationship with JWA, the Upper Bay, and the Lower Bay. I think the long discussions have been worth the wait. I hope you agree.

Serving the Next Generation of Newport

One of the measures of a great community is how well it serves the next generation of its citizens. By ensuring clean, well-protected neighborhoods, and providing inviting library and recreation facilities as well as recreation and safety instructions, the City

strives to be a resource that parents can use to enhance their children's education and care.

Safety First!

Before each new school year begins, Public Works employees check to be sure that roads and sidewalks near schools are in good repair, and the General Services Department's Street Maintenance crews repaint crosswalks and red curbs in areas adjacent to school areas to ensure pedestrian safety. This year, crews logged over 200 hours replacing 56 signs and painting nearly 10,000 lineal feet of crosswalk lanes, school crossing messages and red curbs. Traffic engineering staff monitors pedestrian and vehicular traffic at many school areas during the first two weeks of school, and makes timing adjustments to nearby traffic signals as necessary.

Recreation, Education and Other City Enrichment Programs

The City Recreation, Fire, Police, and Library and Cultural Arts Departments all offer youth programs that make our children's lives fuller, richer and safer.

Recreation Department and Library Services— Our Library Services and Recreation and Senior Services Departments provide so many opportunities for our city's youth that I'm leaving their contributions for a later newsletter. From free seasonal events such as flashlight Easter Egg hunts, Snow Day, and this summer's Splash & Bash, to preschool and afterschool childcare and Recreation's many popular recreation programs, day camps and classes, the Recreation Department is always thinking up new ways to entertain and educate the city's children. The Library Services Department and its Cultural Arts division provide countless enrichment opportunities, from story reading for toddlers to free child-friendly outdoor orchestral concerts.

Fire Department - The Newport Beach Fire Department's programs for youth include:

- **Junior Lifeguards** – Under the direction of the Newport Beach Fire Department, the Newport Beach Lifeguards offer one of the most successful Junior Lifeguard programs in the nation. This program combines recreation, challenging physical conditioning, and a solid base of education and experience in ocean knowledge and safety. Approximately 1,500 enthusiastic kids from the ages of 9 to 15 participated in Newport Beach Junior Lifeguards in the summer of 2006. Over the past 22 years, the City of Newport Beach Junior Lifeguard Program has educated over 20,000 children about ocean safety.
- **Junior Firefighters** – This is an educational outreach program for fifth graders. Newport Beach firefighters give fire safety education every year in all Newport Beach public elementary schools. The program educates approximately 700 children per year.
- **Junior Firefighters' Camp** – Inspired by our popular Junior Lifeguards program, the Fire Department started this new day camp in Summer, 2006. Junior Firefighter's Camp is offered during summer and selected school breaks, and is designed to teach 9- to 13-year-olds fire safety, basic first aid, and firefighting skills. To find out more about this growing program, call Jennifer Schulz at 644-3104, or e-mail her at jschulz@city.newport-beach.ca.us.
- **CPR in the schools** – As part of the curriculum of the public high schools' health education classes, lifeguards teach CPR at Newport Harbor and Corona del Mar

High Schools. Since its inception, 8,500 students in Newport Beach have received this valuable training.

- **Fire Station Tours** - The Fire Department will also schedule educational fire station tours for school and community groups upon request.
- **Public Safety Day** – Newport Beach kids always enjoy Public Safety Day, in which the police, lifeguards and firefighters give educational presentations and conduct demonstrations of what our SWAT teams, firefighters and lifeguards do on the job. This year, Public Safety Day will be held on October 15, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, at the Fashion Island Fire Station on Santa Barbara Avenue, and the adjacent Police Department. Demonstrations start promptly at noon.

Police Department – The Newport Beach Police Department provides the following outreach and education programs to Newport Beach elementary, middle and high school students:

- **DARE** – The Newport Beach Police Department puts on the DARE program at all public elementary schools in Newport Beach, as well as one of the private schools (Our Lady Queen of Angels). DARE is an educational program that has done a great deal to teach children about the dangers of drugs and chemical dependency. The DARE program is given to sixth grade students.
- **DARE Follow-up** – To solidify the DARE message to students during the sensitive middle school years, Police Department representatives teach a follow-up DARE program to seventh graders at Ensign and Corona del Mar Middle Schools.
- **Teen Police Academy** – The award-winning Teen Police Academy is an eight-week summer program that is open to all Newport Beach's high school-age students. It allows students to earn community service hours while seeing a wide range of Police Department activities, including patrol and enforcement, a CSI demonstration, range demonstration and SWAT demonstration. Our fifth class of the Teen Police Academy just graduated on August 17, 2006. Contact Police Department Community Relations at 644-3662 if you're interested in finding out about the next Teen Police Academy dates.
- **Police Explorers** – This year-round program is offered to 15- to 17-year-olds. It gives young adults a chance to learn about law enforcement, and get some direct, supervised experience with law enforcement career activities. Students can also earn community service hours as they assist at City events such as Public Safety Day, the Toshiba Golf Classic, and the Corona del Mar Scenic 5K.

Even not considering the recreational and skill building opportunities provided by our Recreation & Senior Services and our Library Departments, Newport Beach youth have a wide variety of program offerings to choose from.

I look forward to writing more about what is happening in the City in my next newsletter. Thank you for your continuing interest in our community and in these newsletters.

City Centennial regards,



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