



# The Week in Review

City Manager Grace K. Leung  
March 8, 2019

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## Upcoming Events

**Tues., March 12**

### **City Council Meeting**

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

**Thurs., March 14**

### **Finance Committee Mtg.**

City Hall, Crystal Cove  
Conference Room (Bay2D)  
100 Civic Center Dr.  
3 p.m.

**Thurs., March 14**

### **Zoning Administrator Mtg.**

City Hall, Corona del Mar  
Conference Room (Bay1E)  
100 Civic Center Dr.  
3 p.m.

**Thurs., March 14**

### **City Arts Commission Meeting**

City Hall, City Council Chamber  
100 Civic Center Dr.  
5 p.m.

**Thurs., March 14**

### **Flood Map & Insurance Community Meeting**

Marina Park, Community Center  
Event Room  
1600 W. Balboa Blvd.  
6 p.m.

## Draft 2019 Water Master Plan

The Public Works Department has made available the initial Draft 2019 Water Master Plan Executive Summary for viewing by the public. It can be found on the City's website under the Public Works Department tab and can be accessed at: <https://www.newportbeachca.gov/government/departments/public-works/water-master-plan>. The entire draft report will be available for review and comment in the coming weeks prior to finalizing the document this spring.

The Water Master Plan is a comprehensive review of the City's water system infrastructure with a focus on planning the next 30 years of capital replacement and upgrades. The previous 1999 Water Master Plan was updated in 2008. The current draft 2019 Water Master Plan indicates an increase in capital spending is needed to maintain an extensive and dependable water system into the future. In conjunction with this plan, the Utilities Department will be conducting a water rate study that will be presented to City Council for future consideration.

## Fire Department Fee Changes

Last year, the Community Development Department and Revenue Division conducted a comprehensive cost-of-services fee study for the Fire Department for all operational fees, as well as Life Safety Services (including plan review services, construction inspections and operational permits) for fire prevention activities. On September 11, 2018, the City Council adopted the fee changes with a six-month effective date of March 11, 2019. The fees that are subject to change are accessible through the City's website at <https://www.newportbeachca.gov/fireupdate>.

## E Art Gallery

At the December 6, 2018 meeting, the Planning Commission denied a request for a tattoo establishment land use proposed

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

**Mon., March 18  
Board of Library Trustees  
Meeting**

Central Library  
1000 Avocado Ave.  
4 p.m.

**Wed., March 20  
Balboa Village Advisory  
Committee Meeting**

Marina Park, Bay Island  
Conference Room  
1600 W. Balboa Blvd.  
4 p.m.

**Wed., March 20  
General Plan Update Steering  
Committee**

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

**Thurs., March 21  
City Arts Commission Special  
Meeting – Public Forum**

Friends Room, Central Library  
1000 Avocado Ave  
5 p.m.

**Thurs., March 21  
Planning Commission**

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

in a multi-tenant building located at 2721 East Coast Highway in Corona del Mar. The applicant then appealed that decision to the City Council. Prior to their meeting on February 26, the City Council received a detailed letter addressing a myriad of concerns from a business owner opposed to the tattoo use at that location. Following the close of the public hearing, the City Council determined that the item should be referred back to the Planning Commission for their review and decision because of the new information presented in the letter. The Planning Commission is scheduled to hold a public hearing on the item on March 21, 2019.

**Balboa Island Seawall**

Now that the Balboa Island seawall extension project has been completed, there may be opportunity to further reduce the flood zone on Balboa Island. Community Development Department staff will be hiring a consultant to perform a scientific study for Balboa Island to determine how much the flood zone can be further reduced and additional properties removed from the designated flood zone. Staff will be working with representatives of FEMA on the study.

**Microenterprise Home Kitchens**

Assembly Bill 626 became effective January 1, 2019. It is intended to authorize the use of home kitchens for small-scale, direct food sales by home cooks to consumers, providing appropriate flexibility in food types and appropriate health and sanitation standards. The State is attempting to reduce impediments keeping experienced cooks from entering the marketplace while addressing the fact that thousands of private chefs, home caterers, and many other food micro-entrepreneurs cook out of private homes or unlicensed food facilities, with little access to education for best practices or safety guidelines. The bill provides the County with the sole discretion to authorize and regulate these uses consistent with the limited provisions of the legislation. The legislation would limit meals served to 30 per day and annual gross sales to \$50,000. It also exempts these kitchens from many health and sanitation requirements while requiring operators to complete a food safety certification program.

The legislation bars cities and counties from prohibiting or restricting these operations in any dwelling for zoning purposes. The bill preserves a city's ability to enforce nuisance ordinances but enforcement of the limited provisions of this new law would be the responsibility of the County of Orange, Environmental Health Services Division if

these kitchens are authorized by the Board of Supervisors. The County is seeking input from cities to decide whether to authorize microenterprise home kitchens or not. Should the County authorize these operations City staff is very concerned with the following: compatibility with surrounding residents; the operation of these kitchens may potentially undermine existing restaurants; and the lack of resources the County has for enforcement. Staff is in contact with representatives from O.C. Environmental Health to ensure the City's concerns are considered by the County of Orange before they decide to potentially authorize microenterprise home kitchens.

### **Future Affordable Housing Numbers**

Community Development staff is participating in the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Subcommittee of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). The purpose of the RHNA Subcommittee is to review in-depth the various policy considerations necessary for the development of SCAG's RHNA, and to make critical decisions throughout the process. SCAG Director of Planning presented the five objectives of the meeting according to RHNA statute: increase housing supply and types, promote infill development, promote an improved intraregional relationship between housing and jobs, address disproportionate housing needs, and further fair housing. Staff will continue to participate in the RHNA Subcommittee meetings, which are held the first Monday of every month. A schedule of the RHNA Subcommittee Topic Outlook is found at the following link: [RHNA Subcommittee Topic Outlook](#). The RHNA Subcommittee agendas and minutes including Committee members' information can be found at the following link: [RHNA Subcommittee Agendas](#)

### **Collection HQ at the Library**

Staff now utilizes a new tool, Collection HQ, to manage materials purchasing and obtain deeper data analysis in each subcategory. Collection HQ allows staff to generate inventory reports and evaluate the holdings in a more robust manner. The tool has provided the following information:

- 5% of the library's collection has not circulated in 4 or more years. Most libraries average around 20%
- 40% of the library's collection has circulated 40 or more times. Most libraries average around 25%

### **Traffic Signal Rehabilitation Program**

The Public Works Department operates and maintains 123 traffic signals. Every year, the traffic signal rehabilitation program replaces and rehabilitates older traffic signals that have reached the end of their useful life. This year's program includes three signals: Jamboree Road at University Drive/Eastbluff Drive, University Drive at La Vida/Baypointe Drive, and Newport Center Drive at Civic Center Drive/Granville Drive.

In addition to these traffic signal rehabilitation locations, the project includes installation of fiber optic communication cable on East Bay Avenue between 15th Street and Palm Street. This installation will close a gap in the communication network along the peninsula by connecting the Balboa Boulevard traffic signals at Palm Street and Main Street and allow for future connection to other City facilities.

Lastly, the project will install flashing pedestrian warning signs at the Balboa Boulevard/13th Street and 14th Street intersections to further enhance the crosswalks adjacent to Newport Elementary School. This installation is a continuation of the Balboa Peninsula Crosswalk Improvement Project.

### **Grant Howald Park Rehabilitation Project**

On March 5, 2019, the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission approved the conceptual design for the Grant Howald Park Rehabilitation Project. The project scope will include the beautification of the Fifth Avenue streetscape, installation of a synthetic turf sports field and rehabilitation of the playgrounds. For more project information, please visit the project site: [www.newportbeachca.gov/granhowaldpark](http://www.newportbeachca.gov/granhowaldpark)

### **Flourishing our Urban Forest**

In our on-going effort to maintain and manage our wonderful urban forest, Public Works staff has worked with developers in re-planting new palm trees in the public right of way as part of the Lido Villas development project. Last week, contractors planted eight new California Fan Palm trees in the parkway adjacent to 3303 Via Lido Drive. Additionally, and as part of our Bayside Drive CIP project, eight new Date Palm trees were planted in the median on Bayside Drive. The Public Works staff is continuing to pursue opportunities to replenish our City's tree inventory through our tree replanting program and keep our urban forest healthy and sustainable.

### **Drinking Fountains Updated**

In addition to updating plant material, Public Works staff and crews continue to look for ways to enhance the look of our parks. Recently, staff noticed four weathered drinking fountains along the Corona del Mar Bluffs that needed attention. Our team updated the drinking fountains with primer and a fresh coat of green paint, and the fountains are now ready for use again.

