The Week in Review
City Manager Grace K. Leung
September 13, 2019

Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 15
Concert on the Green – Flashback Heart Attack
Civic Green
100 Civic Center Drive
6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Monday, September 16
Board of Library Trustees Meeting
Small Conference Room, Central Library
1000 Avocado Avenue
5 p.m.

Monday, September 16
Proposed Changes to Short-Term Lodging Stakeholder Meeting
City Hall, Community Room
100 Civic Center Drive
6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Tuesday, September 17
Homeless Task Force Mtg.
City Hall, Council Chambers
100 Civic Center Dr.
4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Thursday, September 19
Planning Commission
City Hall, Council Chambers
100 Civic Center Dr.
6:30 p.m.

Update on Addressing Homelessness

The City is pursuing multiple paths for a temporary shelter including negotiating with neighboring cities, negotiating to lease private property in the City and use of a portion of the City Corporation Yard. On September 24, City Council will be asked to take the necessary actions to continue on a parallel path effort for the creation of a temporary emergency shelter for homeless individuals at the City’s Corporation Yard at 592 Superior Avenue. This has been noticed as a public hearing because of the zoning of the site. The actions will allow staff to complete due diligence on the site and develop the costs to set up and operate a shelter.

This week our Police Department, the Orange County Health Care Agency, the Orange County Sheriff’s Department and our City Net partners have been actively engaging our homeless individuals with outreach to assist them from the street to temporary shelter and permanent housing. The efforts were centered around the OCTA Transportation Center facility, where our team interacted with 14 homeless individuals at the OCTA facility. As we work with these individuals, we will hopefully move them to shelters, however, this can be a longer-term process. This past week the Police made 29 stops, which include responding to calls for service and proactive patrol checks, and 2 arrests at the Transportation Center. Also this week, OCTA placed additional signage at the facility and our Police will now enforce trespassing laws, as requested and authorized by OCTA. We continue to place significant resources at this site.

The City has had a number of successes and as I communicate our efforts, I want to share success stories like Priscilla. Priscilla was homeless for approximately 8 years and living in a public restroom near the beach. She was starting to have potentially life threatening health problems which resulted in her being admitted to Hoag Hospital. We worked with Hoag and she was accepted
to a recuperative care shelter to recover and heal. From there she was awarded permanent supportive housing.

As part of our efforts to assist the residents and business community, I would like to introduce you to an additional resource, Natalie Basmaciyan, our Homeless Coordinator. Natalie will support the Homeless Task Force, oversee our outreach services contract with City Net, represent the City in countywide initiatives and work with all our City departments to provide better coordination of our efforts. She is available to answer questions and work with the business community on property rights. Feel free to reach out to her at nbasmaciyan@newportbeachca.gov or 949-718-1991.

**Corona del Mar Library Opens September 16, 2019**

The Newport Beach Board of Library Trustees is pleased to announce that the Corona del Mar Library will open Monday, September 16 at 9 a.m.

The Corona del Mar Library will be open Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., closed on Sundays. Regular programs will include Books & Babies Storytime every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Preschool Storytime every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m., and Drop-in Crafts on the first and third Monday of each month at 3:30 p.m.

Upcoming programs include Fire Safety Crafts on September 26 at 3:30 p.m., Fairy Tales and Magic Crafts on Thursday, October 24 at 3:30 p.m. and Teddy Bear Crafts on Thursday, November 14 at 3:30 p.m.

The Library, together with Newport Beach Fire Station No. 5, is part of a 10,314 square foot joint facility, built to replace the two aged buildings and maximize interior space, energy efficiency and parking areas. Corona del Mar Library features a colorful Children's area, comfortable reading areas, stroller parking and the Friends of the Library Reading Porch with outdoor seating, tables and umbrellas. The collection of books and media materials is brand new and funded through generous contributions from the Friends of the Library, Newport Beach Public Library Foundation and individual library supporters. Books, music, and movies are all available for checkout beginning September 16. Laptop computers can be borrowed for use in the Library.

**Proposed Water Rate Adjustments to be Discussed at September 24 Council Meeting**

City Council and staff have been discussing water rates this past year and have completed a Water Rate Study, which does a deep dive into the water system financials. It has been 10 years since...
the last water rate study and 5 years since the last water rate increase. The cost of buying and pumping water have gone up, along with maintenance and operational costs. Also, to maintain our water system infrastructure, the City Council approved a new Water System Master Plan and the Capital Improvement Program that will implement the Master Plan is in need of additional funding. It is important to remember that water is a 24/7 service to the community and vitally important to public health and the environment. The Finance Committee has reviewed the information and recommends that City Council consider the rate study and proposed rate adjustments. The proposed rate adjustments equate to an increase of about $3.38 per month for the average household for the first year. City Council held a study session on this topic on August 13, 2019. Staff will request approval of the Water Rate Study Report at the September 24, 2019 Council Meeting and request that mailed notices be sent to the community for a Public Hearing on November 19, 2019. In addition to several public meeting presentations on water rates, staff is reaching out to the community by presenting at local community events and community association meetings. The Utilities Department has created a webpage where you can find a draft copy of the Water Rate Study along with presentations and other information: https://www.newportbeachca.gov/government/departments/utilities/water-services/new-water-rates

**Harbor Department Patrol Boat Update**

On September 9, 2019 the City received fabrication progress photos from Chislett’s Boating and Design, the manufacturer recently selected to supply two new patrol boats for the Harbor Department. The photos show the early stage of the production process of the Maritime 210 Patriot vessels. Completed manufacturing and delivery of the vessels are expected by mid to late November of this year.

These twenty-one foot, 125 horse powered, center-console-design patrol boats are the first such procurements since the City established the Harbor Department approximately two years ago. These boats will provide expanded functionality to support Harbor operations and they will replace two catamaran style vessels the department has utilized through a rental agreement with a local non-profit organization.