The Week in Review
City Manager Grace K. Leung
October 18, 2019

Upcoming Events

Saturday, October 19
OASIS Health and Resources Fair
OASIS Senior Center
801 Narcissus Ave
9 – 11 a.m. (8:45 a.m. Complimentary Breakfast)

Monday, October 21
Building and Fire Board of Appeals
City Hall, Corona del Mar Conference Room (Bay1E)
100 Civic Center Drive
3:30 p.m.

Monday, October 21
Board of Library Trustees Meeting
Crean Mariners Branch Library
1300 Irvine Avenue
5 p.m.

Monday, October 21
Review of Title 17 Harbor Code: Marine Activities Permits
Central Library, Friends Meeting Room
1000 Avocado Avenue
6 – 8 p.m.

Homeless Update

Staff continues to pursue multiple paths to obtain shelter beds for Newport Beach. Discussions are continuing with neighboring cities for regional partnerships and with the lease and property owners of 4200 Campus Drive. We have engaged firms to develop design plans for the City’s Corporation Yard and released a request for proposals for a shelter operator this week. We are actively engaged on all three pathways.

The Homeless Task Force met on October 15 and discussed and took action on several items. The Task Force approved the panhandling education signs as requested by the City Council and directed staff to proceed with the purchase and installation of the signs at key intersections in the City. The Housing Subcommittee will be engaging a broker to seek out property that may be appropriate for Permanent Supportive Housing. The Public Outreach Committee is working on enhancing the City’s website and social media presence along with attending community events to engage the public in the issue and offer services to those that may be in need. Finally, the Task Force will be reviewing its goals and objectives at its next meeting on November 12.

Success story of the week: A female individual was being evicted from her apartment in Newport Beach. She suffered from domestic violence and did not have anywhere to go. The Police Department reached out to City Net, our homeless outreach provider, to see what they could do for her. City Net met the client at the apartments where she had just gotten evicted. City Net staff referred her to Treehouse Shelter, located in Costa Mesa, which provides adults (ages 18-59) a mental health crisis residential program. This turned out to be a perfect fit for her and she is now sheltered at Treehouse, in the process of stabilizing herself.

Visit the City’s website for a complete listing of meetings and events at newportbeachca.gov/events.
General Plan Update Steering Committee Meeting

The General Plan Update Steering Committee (GPUSC) met on Wednesday, October 16, in the City Council Chambers. The GPUSC heard updates on the progress of planning and advertising the October 26 Listen & Learn Launch Event (called the “Newport, Together Community Fair”). The GPUSC also saw the updated interactive online web platform and provided feedback on potential improvements to increase community engagement and feedback opportunities. Lastly, the GPUSC and members of the public discussed the distinction between General Plan policies and Zoning Code regulations, and how that will be addressed through the Listen & Learn Launch Event. It was reiterated that all feedback (with exception of profane or hateful comments) would be catalogued and clarifying questions should be asked of the commenter when necessary to ensure specific feedback that could translate into a future General Plan and/or Zoning Code update.

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 and the interactive website at https://www.newporttogether.com.

Newport, Together Community Fair

As a reminder, please join us for a fun and free community fair on the Newport Beach Civic Green (100 Civic Center Drive) on October 26 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. with free TK Burgers for the first 200 people! Enjoy live music by an acoustic band, family-friendly activities, food, and lawn games with your neighbors. Several community organizations and City departments will be in attendance.

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.

Visit https://www.newporttogether.com/ for more information.

Community Outreach Meeting Held on 2019 Building and Fire Codes

At a community outreach meeting, the Chief Building Official, Samir Ghosn and the Fire Marshall, Kevin Bass, discussed the proposed changes to the 2019 Building and Fire Codes that become effective Jan 1, 2020. Among the 50 attendees were local architects, engineers, and design professionals. Attendees did not request the deletion of any amendments. However, participants requested future City sponsored seminars to address subjects like egress and accessibility.
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.

Code changes and code adoption will also be discussed during a presentation at the Building and Fire Board of Appeals on October 21, 2019. The first reading for City Council will be November 5, 2019.

Update on Uptown Newport

A temporary certificate of occupancy was issued for the North Building of Uptown Newport phase 1. This permits Uptown Newport to conduct tours of the apartment models for the future tenants and phase move in dates. This construction phase has released 86 units and the Sky Deck, as well as a portion of the garage and clubhouse and the bridge that links the South and North Tower. The remainder of the North Tower will be released in three phases to allow safe occupancy for the residents while the finishes are being completed.

Public Works Department – Parks and Trees Division

This week, our Public Works Landscape staff and crew partnered with Stanbridge University for another tree-planting event at Harbor View Nature Park. Fifty volunteers from the University and the City planted 80 native trees, and 200 native plants that were donated by Shadetree Nursery.

Root for Change is one of Stanbridge University’s initiatives to help the environment through partnership opportunities by planting trees in locations across Southern California.

Stanbridge University’s commitment to Root for Change and their community outREACH will bring them back to Newport Beach in 2020.

Disaster Shelter Training Exercise

The Recreation and Senior Services Department, in partnership with the American Red Cross and Emergency Services Coordinator Katie Eing, held a Disaster Shelter Exercise on Wednesday, October 16. The exercise was attended by 40 staff and focused on our responsibilities in the event of Emergency Operation Center (EOC) and shelter activation. In addition to the informational presentation, there was a mock shelter exercise to simulate registration, dormitory, information, feeding and general best practices for shelter management. Orange County Social Services and NMUSD also attended and participated in the exercise.