The Week in Review

City Manager Grace K. Leung January 31, 2020

Upcoming Events

Monday, February 3 Fair Housing Workshop

Civic Center, Corona del Mar Conference Room (Bay 1E) 100 Civic Center Drive 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Monday, February 3 Library Lecture Hall Committee Meeting

Civic Center, Newport Coast Conference Room (Bay 2E) 100 Civic Center Drive 3 p.m.

Monday, February 3 Civil Service Board Meeting City Council Chambers 100 Civic Center Drive 5 p.m.

Monday, February 3 District 1 Town Hall Meeting Marina Park Community Center 1600 W. Balboa Boulevard 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Thursday, February 6 Water Quality Coastal Tidelands Committee Meeting

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

Housing Action Plan Webpage Created

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is in the process of determining how to allocate or distribute the final State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) regional determination to each individual jurisdiction in region. For Newport Beach, SCAG's draft methodology results in a RHNA allocation of 4,832 dwelling units that the City must plan for in the October 2021-October 2029 Housing Element planning period. Every jurisdiction must plan for its RHNA allocation in the housing element of its General Plan by ensuring there is enough sites and zoning to accommodate their RHNA allocation. This estimated allocation will be very challenging for the City to plan for, especially given the affordability requirements. In order to address the issue, City Council asked staff to prepare a Housing Action Plan to guide the City and its efforts moving forward with the mantra of "firmly challenge and plan to comply."

In furtherance of the *Housing Action Plan*, which City Council reviewed at its January 14, 2020, meeting, City staff created a new webpage. This new page will be regularly updated with the City's efforts to challenge yet work towards compliance with the State Housing Element law and the deadline to adopt an updated housing element to the HCD by October 2021.

Whether you are interested in reviewing the tasks and assignments that are part of the action plan or you would like to see the correspondence being sent from the City to the State and its legislators, this page will be very helpful for you moving forward. Check it out by visiting: www.newportbeachca.gov/housingactionplan

Homeless Update

Success Stories: City Net, the City's contracted social services provider, continues to assist people with accessing and navigating resources in the community. Their outreach efforts, coordinated with the City and County's resources, continue to provide housing opportunities for people experiencing homelessness in the community. City Net

Friday, February 7 Friends of the Library Used Book Sale (members only) Friends Meeting Room Central Library 1000 Avocado Avenue 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Saturday, February 8 Friends of the Library Used Book Sale (open to the public)

Friends Meeting Room Central Library 1000 Avocado Avenue 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. utilizes the Vulnerability Index intake assessment to screen clients on a number of factors to determine proper placement in the County's Continuum of Care system. Some factors include age, health issues, and length of time being unsheltered.

Last week, City Net case managers connected several people experiencing homelessness to the appropriate social services departments in the County of Orange for assistance. Using the Vulnerability Index, case managers connected one client to medical services through the County's Comprehensive Health Assessment Team. Another client qualified for a referral to the Community Resource and Referral Center for military Veterans (City Net staff provided the veteran with an ID waiver and bus pass to obtain a valid photo ID before his appointment). A third client was provided transportation to obtain a certified birth certificate needed for a potential housing voucher. A fourth client was assisted with an apartment application to help upgrade from transitional housing to permanent housing. City Net case managers continue to stay in contact with these clients to help ensure a positive outcome.

Also this week, City Net's Newport Beach outreach team welcomed a new Masters of Social Work graduate Intern from Cal State Fullerton. She joins the team in the field on Mondays and Fridays for the duration of the Spring semester.

Mental Health Forum

This week, the City hosted a Community Mental Health Forum comprised of mental health experts from local service providers. This program was a result of the Homeless Task Force participants' focus on the myriad issues surrounding homelessness. Elected officials, City staff, and other agencies in the State and County are all coordinating efforts to address this critical issue in our communities. The program will be available for viewing on the City's website in the NBTV section in the coming days.

Clayton Chau, MD and PhD, represented MIND OC and Be Well OC. Dr. Chau founded MIND OC as the non-profit entity supporting Be Well OC, a new model for delivering mental health services in the County. The new model unifies public and private partnerships, academic institutions, faith communities, and community resources to coordinate access points and service delivery. Be Well OC broke ground on their first of three planned service hubs in the City of Orange. The new wellness hub is scheduled to open in Fall 2020. Dr. Chau discussed how the collaboration and coordination of the Be Well OC model is the first of its kind in the State of California, and has proven successful in other states and countries. Min Suh, MSW, represented the Orange County Healthcare Agency. He has served in several capacities beginning as a Peer Support Specialist. Peer Support Specialists represent a new sector of mental health and wellness staff in that they connect with clients through their shared lived experience of healing from mental illness. People with lived experience complete specialized training to enter the mental healthcare field. Mr. Suh now oversees peer workforce development for the County. The County's Crisis Prevention Hotline offers 24-hour, immediate service for all County residents in crisis or thinking suicidal thoughts. The Hotline phone numbers are (877) 7-CRISIS or (877) 727-4747.

Heidi Sweeney, MSW, represented the National Alliance on Mental Illness for Orange County (NAMI-OC). Ms. Sweeney also entered the mental healthcare field by beginning as a Peer Support Specialist through her lived experience healing from mental illness. NAMI-OC offers programs, resources, and crisis intervention services throughout the County. Ms. Sweeney is the Lead Trainer for NAMI-OC's signature programs, such as family support groups. NAMI-OC also staffs the OC Warmline 7 days a week. Orange County residents with mental health concerns, substance abuse, or are in need of community resources may call and speak to a representative. The OC Warmline staff is available 9 a.m. - 3 a.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. - 3 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. The OC Warmline phone numbers are (714) 991-6412 or (877) 910-9276 for toll-free service.

Western Snowy Plover Management Plan Update

The Planning Division submitted the Western Snowy Plover Management Plan for East Balboa Peninsula Beaches (Plan) to the California Coastal Commission for their review last July in hopes of obtaining a coastal development permit. Since the submittal, City staff have been working with Coastal Commission staff and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to create a plan that balances the need for resource protection and public access. The Western Snowy Plover (WSP) is a federally designated threatened species and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service has designated the beach area between B and G Streets as critical habitat for the WSP. The WSP also inhabit other areas of the Balboa Peninsula east of the critical habit area. The Plan includes provisions for habitat management that takes into account predator management, recreation management, municipal operations in and around the critical habitat, signage, public education, and monitoring to document how the local WSP population is affected by human related activities in the area.

A public hearing before the Coastal Commission is anticipated to take place in March. The latest version of the plan can be viewed on the City's website at <u>http://www.newportbeachca.gov/snowyplover</u>

For more information or to be placed on our interest list for notice of future meetings, please contact Gregg Ramirez, Principal Planner, at 949-644-3219 or email gramirez@newportbeachca.gov.

Short Term Lodging

On February 11, 2020 the City Council will consider changes to the City's short term lodging ordinance. The changes stem from complaints received from residents that live next to short term lodging units. The City Council formed an ad hoc committee to review the existing ordinance and propose changes that strike a better balance between the residents that live next to short term lodging units and property owners that own short term lodging units. The changes involve parking requirements, occupancy limitations, contact phone numbers, signage, and requiring platforms to have more responsibility in ensuring only legal units are booked.

Concrete Street Pavement Reconstruction Project

The Public Works Department will be starting the construction phase for the Concrete Street Pavement Reconstruction project on Monday, February 3, 2020. The project limits include Anade Avenue, Montero Avenue and Alvarado Place from Bay Avenue to Edgewater Place, and 6th Street from Balboa Boulevard to Bay Avenue.

The construction contractor, Aramexx Construction, will be removing and reconstructing the concrete street pavement and sections of deteriorated concrete sidewalk, curb, gutter, and alley/driveway approaches within the project limits. The contractor will also install new storm drain systems on Anade Avenue, Montero Avenue, and Alvarado Place to improve the street drainage. Additionally, the contractor will construct new landscaped parkways on Anade Avenue and Montero Avenue.

This project has been in the planning and design stages for several years. Staff is excited to finally construct the proposed improvements and would like to thank the neighboring residents for their continued patience and support.

