



# The Week in Review

City Manager Grace K. Leung

May 21, 2021

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## Upcoming Events

**Monday, May 24**

**Board of Library Trustees Meeting**

City Council Chambers  
100 Civic Center Drive

[\(See agenda for instructions on how to participate\)](#)

5 p.m.

**Tuesday, May 25**

**Special Joint Meeting of the City Council and Finance Committee**

[\(See agenda for instructions on how to participate\)](#)

4 p.m.

[\(Insider's Guide\)](#)

**Tuesday, May 25**

**City Council Study Session and Regular Meeting**

[\(See agenda for instructions on how to participate\)](#)

6 p.m.

[\(Insider's Guide\)](#)

**Wednesday, May 26**

**[COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic](#)**

Civic Center Community Room  
100 Civic Center Drive  
Noon – 4 p.m.

Community members,

Orange County entered the Yellow Tier of the State's reopening framework on Wednesday, May 19, allowing for [expanded indoor and outdoor capacities](#) in some business sectors and activities as the state moves toward a full reopening in mid-June. With the low rates of hospitalizations and steady supply of vaccines, California is on track to reopen fully by June 15, as planned.

The overall COVID-19 metrics for Orange County continued to improve this week. The 7-day average daily case number (per 100,000 people) decreased from 1.8 to 1.5. The test positivity rate (the percentage of positive tests among those tested) improved as well, dropping from 1.0% to 0.9%. The health equity metric decreased from 1.2% to 0.9%.

Here is additional vaccine information and resources as of May 21:

- The City of Newport Beach will host a vaccine clinic on May 26, from noon to 4 p.m., at the Civic Center Community Room, 100 Civic Center Dr. Walk-ins are welcome, or you can make an appointment in advance by calling 949-644-3355. We will be administering 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> doses of the Moderna vaccine, as well as the one-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine.
- Orange County parents and legal guardians of minors (ages 12-17) can schedule a vaccination appointment through the County online at [Othena.com](#) or by calling the OC COVID 19 Hotline at (714) 834-2000.
- Minors ages 12 and older who are receiving a vaccine at a County Super POD site must be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian and provide picture ID and proof of age.

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

**Thursday, May 27**  
**Zoning Administrator Mtg.**  
[\(See agenda for instructions on how to participate\)](#)  
10 a.m.

**Thursday, May 27**  
**Finance Committee Meeting**  
[\(See agenda for instructions on how to participate\)](#)  
3 p.m.

- The County will close its Super POD sites at the Anaheim Convention Center, OC Fair & Event Center, Soka University and Santa Ana College at the end of the day on June 5 and shift operations to an expanding network of robust mobile PODs.

### **COVID-19 Cases in Newport Beach**

As of May 20, the total number of COVID-19 cases in Newport Beach was 3,901 and the total cases in Orange County was 254,919. The number of recovered COVID-19 patients countywide as of May 20 was 248,338. These figures are provided to Orange County by the California Department of Public Health.

### **Homelessness Update**

People experiencing homelessness in Newport Beach can now find temporary shelter and support services in the new Costa Mesa Bridge Shelter. Through a partnership agreement with Costa Mesa, the new shelter at 3175 Airway Avenue provides up to 72 beds for individuals experiencing homelessness in Costa Mesa and Newport Beach. The shelter is operated by Mercy House, which provides case management to locate appropriate permanent housing, assist with job searches, and provide other on-site services.

The City of Newport Beach discourages panhandling in favor of targeted assistance through the Good Giving Program. Donations received through the program enable staff to purchase items such as bicycles, work boots, and small household items for newly housed people. All donations are tax deductible. If you would like more information, or to donate, please visit our [Good Giving Program web page](#).

City staff works closely with our contractor City Net, and our regional partners throughout the county and state, to address homelessness. The City Net helpline number is (714) 451-6198. Those who call the hotline may leave a detailed voicemail message for themselves or others in need and City Net staff will respond within 48 hours. For immediate assistance, call the County's Crisis Prevention Hotline at (877) 7-CRISIS or (877) 727-4747

#### **Success Stories:**

- 16 people who had been experiencing homelessness in Newport Beach are now sheltered in the new Costa Mesa Bridge Shelter.
- City Net case managers enrolled a client into the State-issued Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) program, which provides up to \$125 a month toward food purchases.

- Four people in Newport Beach experiencing homelessness were enrolled into City Net services. City Net staff completed Vulnerability Index Intake Assessments for each. The assessments are used to screen clients to determine proper placement in the County's Continuum of Care system. Some assessment factors include age, health issues, and length of time being unsheltered. Case managers will follow up with the clients to provide housing assessments and prepare documentation for housing.
- City Net staff continues to provide food gift cards, support, and case management to several people sheltering in motels while they await placement into permanent, supportive housing.

### **Civic Center Pathway Update**

Between June 1 and June 11 Phase VI of the Civic Center Park Sculpture Exhibition will be installed. The existing Civic Center pathway is broken out and being removed. The Contractor will grade and level the base material in preparation for the new pathway material. During the art installation the pathway contractor will not be laying any new pathway to ensure the new material is not driven on and damaged. Once the artwork has been completed, final pathway construction will take approximately two weeks to finish.

### **Insider's Guide for the Newport Beach City Council Meeting on May 25, 2021**

Our next City Council meeting is Tuesday, May 25. Items that may be of interest are highlighted below. The entire agenda, and all reports, can be viewed [here](#).

In-person public comments are welcome. For those participating remotely, please note that City Council meetings will accept remote public comment only through the Zoom platform, with video and audio-only options. If you are viewing the meeting through Zoom, use the "raise hand" function, wait for City staff to announce your name, and unmute your line when it is your turn to speak. To comment through Zoom's audio-only option, call 669-900-9128 (Meeting ID 991 0098 4261#), and dial \*9 during public comments to join the speaking queue (\*6 to unmute when it is your turn). For additional information on remote participation, [click here](#).

There will be a Special Joint Meeting of the City Council and Finance Committee at 4 p.m.:

- Review of the City's proposed fiscal year 2021-2022 operating budget, including revenue assumptions, planned expenditures, and program enhancement recommendations. The draft budget is available for public review at [newportbeachca.gov/budget](http://newportbeachca.gov/budget).
- Review of the resources and services devoted to maintaining City beaches, including trash pickup, boardwalk ambassadors, lifeguard coverage and code enforcement. City staff will present an overview of the current approach to beach management, along with options for enhanced services.

The Study Session and Regular Meeting begin at 6 p.m. and the following are items of note:

- Review of the proposed fiscal year 2021-2022 capital improvement program (CIP) budget. The \$74.8 million CIP proposal includes maintenance and improvement plans for highways, streets and alleys, storm drain and water quality systems, park and recreation facilities, water and wastewater systems, transportation projects, and planning programs and studies. The proposed CIP is available for public review at [newportbeachca.gov/budget](http://newportbeachca.gov/budget).
- A public hearing and potential adoption of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a confined aquatic disposal (CAD) project in the lower Newport Harbor. The CAD is proposed as part of a harbor dredging project that will remove about 1 million cubic yards of sediment from the harbor floor to reestablish original navigation depths and improve harbor water quality. Most of the dredged material will be disposed of in the open ocean and used to replenish the Balboa Peninsula ocean beaches. Some of the dredge material (about 10%) is unsuitable for open ocean disposal because it contains small amounts of mercury. To dispose of the unsuitable material, the CAD project is

proposed for the central portion of the lower Harbor between Bay Island, Harbor Island and Lido Isle. A CAD is constructed underwater by digging a hole and disposing of the initial material removed from the hole in the ocean, and then placing the non-open ocean quality bottom sediment back inside the hole. A cap of suitable material is then placed on top, creating a physical barrier between contaminants and the harbor waters. The EIR is available [at this link](#) on the City's website. [Click here](#) for an FAQ document on the project.

