



The Week in Review

City Manager Grace K. Leung

October 8, 2021

Upcoming Events

Sunday, October 10

[Newport Beach Fire Service Day](#)

Newport Beach Fire Station #7
20401 Acacia
11 a.m.- 2 p.m.

Monday, October 11

Community Meeting on Group Residential Facilities

Friends Meeting Room – Central Library
1000 Avocado Avenue
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Tuesday, October 12

City Council Study Session

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

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

Tuesday, October 12

City Council Regular Meeting

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

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

Wednesday, October 13

Harbor Commission Meeting

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

Community Members:

As the oil spill cleanup effort continues, I am cautiously optimistic that the worst may be behind us. Through the week, cleanup crews have been working hard to remove oil and tar deposits from the shoreline, and more than 14,000 feet of containment booms are being utilized to collect floating oil from the water. More than 900 workers are now conducting response operations on the shoreline, with crews deployed to the Peninsula and Corona del Mar, under a unified command led by the U.S. Coast Guard and state Dept. of Fish and Wildlife. As of Friday, 5,544 gallons of crude oil have been recovered by vessels, and about 172,000 pounds of oily debris has been removed from Orange County beaches.

Newport Beach lifeguards are reporting a steady decrease in the amount of oil and tar washing ashore. As of Friday morning, only light oil deposits were observed. The oil spill is moving south and is starting to break apart. Oil has been observed 11 miles off of San Clemente and tar balls have been sighted in Oceanside, Carlsbad and Encinitas.

Meanwhile, the City's beach advisory remains in place. For health and safety reasons, residents and visitors must avoid contact with ocean water and oiled areas of the beach. The entrance to Newport Harbor remains temporarily closed to help prevent oil from entering the harbor. City recreation classes that utilize ocean-facing beaches have been temporarily cancelled (recreation classes in the harbor are continuing as scheduled). All fishing and collecting of shellfish, both recreational and commercial, is prohibited from Huntington Beach south to Dana Point.

We have heard from many residents who are concerned about air and water quality. The South Coast Air Quality Management District, in coordination with the U.S.

Visit the City's website for a complete listing of meetings and events at newportbeachca.gov/events.

Thursday, October 14
Zoning Administrator Meeting
City Hall, City Council Chambers
100 Civic Center Drive
[\(See agenda for instructions on how to participate\)](#)
10 a.m.

Thursday, October 14
Finance Committee Meeting
City Hall Crystal Cove Conference Room (Bay 2D)
100 Civic Center Drive
3 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Thursday, October 14
City Arts Commission Meeting
Central Library
1000 Avocado Avenue
5 p.m.

Environmental Protection Agency, the Orange County Health Care Agency, and a contracted environmental consulting firm are conducting community air monitoring through mobile air surveys and air sampling at 12 sites located along the Orange County coastline, including four sites in Newport Beach. As of Thursday, air samples from areas potentially impacted by the oil spill are similar to air quality on a typical day and below California health standards for the pollutants measured. Air monitoring efforts will continue.

The City will be conducting water testing today, in coordination with the County of Orange, Huntington Beach and the state.

While the numbers of injured wildlife have been lower than expected, we may see more in the coming days. Please avoid contact with oil and oiled wildlife, and if you see oiled wildlife, please call 1-877-823-6926.

The spill was caused by a rupture in a pipeline carrying crude oil from the offshore platform Elly, possibly damaged by a ship's anchor. The exact cause of the spill remains under investigation.

For more information and updates, please visit the City's web site at www.newportbeachca.gov/oilspill. The official incident web site is <https://socalspillresponse.com/>. Volunteers who meet certain minimum criteria can now register with the state Department of Fish and Wildlife at <https://calspillwatch.wildlife.ca.gov/volunteer>.

COVID-19 Cases in Newport Beach

As of October 7, the total cumulative number of COVID-19 cases in Newport Beach was 4,980 an increase of 44 cases from September 30. The total number of cases in Orange County as of October 7 was 299,334, an increase of 1,669 cases from September 30. The number of recovered COVID-19 patients countywide as of October 7 was 286,423. These figures are provided to Orange County by the California Department of Public Health. The County's daily, weekday update of COVID-19 case information is [available at this link](#). Those seeking vaccination options can visit the HCA page [at this link](#), by the California Department of Public Health. The County's daily, weekday update of COVID-19 case information is [available at this link](#). Those seeking vaccination options can visit the HCA page [at this link](#).

Homelessness Update

- 18 people who had been experiencing homelessness in Newport Beach are now sheltered in the Costa Mesa Bridge Shelter. City Net completed three intakes this week.

- City Net, the City's contract homeless services agency, ordered Social Security award letters for several clients matched to Emergency Housing Vouchers. Emergency Housing Vouchers are funded by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and allow people to pay affordable rent based on their fixed incomes. Nine people experiencing homelessness in Newport Beach have been awarded vouchers so far and are working with a housing navigator to locate apartments. The voucher program is being administered by the Orange County Housing Authority.
- City Net completed a Vulnerability Index Intake Assessment for a man experiencing homelessness by the Newport Transportation Center. The assessment is used to screen clients to determine proper placement in the County's Continuum of Care system. Some factors include age, health issues, and length of time being unsheltered. Case managers will follow up with the client to provide housing assessments and prepare documentation for housing.
- City Net facilitated appointments for a client with Telecare and Collete's Children's Home. Collete's Children's Home provides a stable, safe transitional home for single women and mothers.
- City Net ordered identifying documents (including a photo ID, birth certificate, and Social Security card) for a person enrolled in their services.
- City Net completed a housing assessment with a person enrolled in their services. The person was matched to an Emergency Housing Voucher last week.

To donate to those experiencing homelessness in Newport Beach, please visit our [Good Giving Program web page](#).

Insider's Guide for the Newport Beach City Council Meeting on October 12, 2021

Our next City Council meeting is Tuesday, October 12. Items that may be of interest are highlighted below. The entire agenda, and all reports, can be viewed [here](#).

A study session will begin at 4 p.m. Agenda items include:

- Discussion on the conditions and potential rehabilitation of McFadden Plaza, Newport Pier and oceanfront parking lot areas. Staff will give a presentation on the current conditions of these public facilities and spaces. Council may provide direction on whether to explore rehabilitation or reconstruction.
- Discussion on potential exclusive commercial solid waste collection and recycling franchise areas within the City. The Council will discuss whether the City should explore establishing one or more exclusive commercial solid waste collection and recycling franchise areas. Possible commercial business areas that could be considered include the Corona del Mar business district, Balboa Island and Balboa Village Business District.

The regular session begins at 7 p.m., with the following item of note:

Current Business:

- Ratifying the October 5 proclamation of local emergency in response to the offshore oil spill. City Manager Grace Leung, acting in her capacity as Director of Emergency Services for the City of Newport Beach, signed the declaration October 5. The local emergency proclamation allows the City Manager to expedite certain decisions relating to the oil spill response and allows for reimbursement of costs incurred during the emergency.

