Community Members:

Some of you have already received new, green-lid carts for recycling yard waste, food waste and other biodegradable materials as part of a State-mandated organic waste recycling program that took effect January 1. The cart rollout began this week and will continue through the end of March. Pickup of organic recycling will begin the week after the carts are delivered, on the same day as trash and standard recycling are collected.

The organic waste recycling cart delivery includes educational materials explaining how to recycle properly to meet the state’s environmental goals. I encourage you to read through the booklet and consult the following resources for more information:

- Click here for a short video on how to separate and recycle organic waste.
- Visit www.newportbeachca.gov/recycle to find out when the organic recycling carts will arrive in your neighborhood (use the search function at the top of the page).
- Read through our Frequently Asked Questions document for answers to common questions and concerns.
- Collection days have changed for about 14,000 households. To find out your trash and recycling pickup day: www.newportbeachca.gov/findmycollectionday.
- Street sweeping days have also been adjusted in the neighborhoods with collection day changes. These neighborhoods include portions of the Balboa Peninsula (21st Street to G Street) and Corona del Mar (north of Coast Highway), Irvine Terrance, the Port Streets and the north tip of Newport Heights. These changes will avoid conflicts, address parking conditions, and maintain street sweeping effectiveness. For maps and information visit www.newportbeachca.gov/2022sweeping or call the City’s Utilities Department at (949) 644-3011.
Residents Encouraged to Apply for Aviation, General Plan Committees

- **Aviation Committee.** The City is seeking community representatives from Council District 1 to fill an unscheduled vacancy on the Aviation Committee. If you are a resident of District 1 and are interested in applying, please visit [www.newportbeachca.gov/vacancy](http://www.newportbeachca.gov/vacancy) for more information. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

- **General Plan Update Steering Committee.** The City is seeking community representatives for three open seats on the reestablished General Plan Update Steering Committee. If you are interested in applying please visit [www.newportbeachca.gov/vacancy](http://www.newportbeachca.gov/vacancy) for more information. The deadline to apply is noon on Wednesday, February 16.

**JWA General Aviation Update Meeting February 10**

John Wayne Airport staff will host a community meeting on February 10 with two sessions, 4 to 5 p.m. and 5 to 6 p.m., at the airport’s Community Room, 3160 Airway Ave., Costa Mesa to provide an update on the General Aviation Improvement Program (GAIP). The public is invited to attend in person or via webstream or phone. For more information see this flier or visit the airport’s GAIP website.

**Ocean Piers Maintenance Project Underway**

Maintenance work has begun at the Balboa and Newport piers. During the next few months, Associated Pacific Constructors, Inc., a City contractor, will be performing inspections and routine maintenance repairs underwater and underneath the decks of the City’s ocean piers. The Balboa and Newport piers were originally built in 1940. While the decks are constructed of relatively low-maintenance concrete, the timber support structures below the decks are continuously impacted by the ocean waves, tides, and the harsh marine environment. For the duration of the maintenance work, both piers will remain open to the public, restaurant patrons, and small delivery/trash trucks. Please exercise caution when walking next to the construction zones and contact Public Works at (949) 644-3311 with any questions or concerns.

**COVID-19 Cases in Newport Beach**

As of February 3, the total cumulative number of COVID-19 cases in Newport Beach was 8,601 (a decrease after the number was adjusted downward on January 31 because of an earlier reporting error). The total number of cases in Orange County as of February 3 was 521,431, an increase of 18,139 cases since January 27. The number of recovered COVID-19 patients countywide as of February 3 was 410,516. These figures are provided to Orange County by the California Department of Public Health.
**Homelessness Update**

- City Net, Newport Beach’s contract social services agency, toured senior apartment buildings with two men who were awarded 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. The voucher program is administered by the Orange County Housing Authority. City Net is assisting Newport Beach clients with completing the necessary paperwork, obtaining bank statements, touring potential rental apartments, and more.

- 17 people who had been experiencing homelessness in Newport Beach are now sheltered in the Costa Mesa Bridge Shelter.

- City Net enrolled two people into its services and completed a Vulnerability Index Assessment. City Net utilizes the Vulnerability Index Assessment to screen clients on a number of factors to determine proper placement in the County’s Continuum of Care system. Factors include age, health issues, and length of time being unsheltered.

- To donate to those experiencing homelessness in Newport Beach, please visit our Good Giving Program web page.

**Volunteers Needed for Homeless Point in Time Count**

Sign up to help shape homeless services in Orange County for the next several years as part of the Point in Time Count, February 22 through February 24. Point in Time is a biennial count of people experiencing homelessness on a given night. The count provides vital information that helps the County better understand homelessness in the community and guides the way the County and its partners respond to homelessness in Orange County.

Volunteer opportunities are available leading up to the event and during the Point in Time Count event. Sign up at [https://www.everyonecountsoc.org/](https://www.everyonecountsoc.org/).

**Testing and Vaccination Resources**

Self-collection, at-home COVID-19 Test Kits are available at no cost to people who work or live in Orange County, and can be ordered online at [ochealthinfo.com/covidtest](http://ochealthinfo.com/covidtest). In addition, free tests are now available from the federal government through [COVIDtests.gov](http://COVIDtests.gov) or by calling (800) 232-0233. You can order up to four rapid tests to be sent to your home address, which will be mailed at no cost through the U.S. Postal Service within 7 to 12 days.

Vaccines continue to be widely available throughout Orange County for walk-in, same day and future appointments. Individuals who are not yet vaccinated or boosted against COVID-19, or are eligible for a third dose (due to immunocompromise conditions) are encouraged to visit a local pharmacy or healthcare provider, or go online to [Vaccines.gov](http://Vaccines.gov), [MyTurn.ca.gov](http://MyTurn.ca.gov) or [Othena.com](http://Othena.com), to schedule a vaccination appointment. For more information on COVID-19 information and resources, including case counts, vaccination and testing in Orange County, visit [ochealthinfo.com/covid](http://ochealthinfo.com/covid).

**Insider’s Guide for the Newport Beach City Council Meeting on February 8, 2022**

Our next City Council meeting is Tuesday, February 8. Items that may be of interest are highlighted below. The entire agenda, and all reports, can be viewed [here](http://here).

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

- The Council will hear an update on activities by the City Council Ad Hoc Redistricting Committee. The Ad Hoc Redistricting Committee has been reviewing proposed changes to the Council district maps based on 2020 Census data, in compliance with federal and state laws and the City Charter, to ensure equal population distribution among the City’s seven districts. Staff will present a recommendation from the committee on proposed Council redistricting maps for input. An updated map with revised districts may be considered by the City Council in March.
• City staff will discuss and seek Council direction on the continued use of public rights-of-way for outdoor dining by restaurants on Balboa Island and in the Newport Pier area.

• Be Well OC will provide an update on the implementation of its Newport Beach Mobile Crisis Response Unit. The Be Well OC team will be present in the community 12 hours a day, seven days a week, and will provide in-community assessment and stabilization of individuals experiencing mental health or substance use challenges. The team will also be responsible for providing information and referrals, and support and case management. The new service will work in concert with the City’s Police and Fire Departments and its homeless outreach team.

• Staff and representatives from Trellis International will present an update on the Community Impact Team Program. Trellis is working under a City grant to support community beautification projects within Newport Beach while closing the employment gap associated with homeless individuals. Trellis works with those experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity to develop the job skills necessary to re-enter the job market. During the past several months, Trellis’ Community Impact Teams (CIT) have been conducting various volunteer work projects within the city. Staff, as well as Trellis representatives, will present an update on the CIT program and some of the many volunteer projects completed to date.

The regular session begins at 6 p.m., with the following items of note:

Consent Calendar:

• Award of a construction contract of $241,000 to Escondido-based Western State Builders for refurbishment of the Civic Center Dog Park. If approved, the project would replace worn-out synthetic turf, uneven sidewalks and fence screening, and add a new shade structure to the small-dog area.

Public Hearings:

• The Council will consider a resolution to adopt the City’s Housing Element update for 2021-2029, which amends the Newport Beach General Plan. The proposed update will serve as a guide for implementation of City housing policies through 2029. As required by State law, the update examines current housing needs, estimates future housing needs, and establishes goals, policies and programs while demonstrating capacity to accommodate the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocation of 4,845 new housing units. The Housing Element update has been in development for more than two years, a process that includes nearly 50 public workshops, meetings and opportunities for community input. The public is invited to review the latest draft of the Housing Element update at http://www.newportbeachca.gov/DraftHEUpdate.

• Potential approval of 10 outdoor sculptures and four alternates for Phase VII of the temporary sculpture exhibit at Civic Center Park. In January, the City’s Arts Commission formally recommended the 10 sculptures and four alternates, which were selected through a survey of Newport Beach residents. If approved, the Phase VII sculptures will be installed this summer and remain on display for two years.