

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** January 29, 2015  
**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** John Pietig, City Manager  
**SUBJECT:** WEEKLY UPDATES

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**CERT Training for School District** - The Laguna Beach Police and Fire Departments have been providing Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) training to the public for about two years. In cooperation with the Laguna Beach Unified School District, a specific CERT class was designed for the District employees and began on Monday, January 26. Over the next two weeks, 37 District employees will go through the 25 hours of FEMA certified disaster preparedness training. The training consists of disaster preparedness, disaster medical operations, fire safety, search and rescue, and traffic control.

**Chief Workman Presents Historical Overview** - On January 28, Police Chief Paul Workman presented a history of the Laguna Beach Police Department to the Laguna Beach Historical Society. The talk lasted nearly an hour and covered the period between 1927 and 1953. The Chief talked about the lives of the first chiefs and their officers. He also was able to tell the story of a mystery officer from the 1920s whose two photos hung on the department's walls for at least forty years. Anyone having an interest in the presentation may go to the Historical Society's website and click on their programs list to view this presentation at <http://www.lagunabeachhistory.org/programs/>.

**Main Beach Park Sculpture Competition** - On January 26, the Arts Commission reviewed sculpture designs by finalists Sukhi Dail, Pat Downing and Ricardo Duffy for an installation at Main Beach Park. The Commission is recommending a sculpture titled, "Sea Breeze" by Sukhi Dail. The bronze and cast glass sculpture will measure 9'8" in height. The artist is a Laguna Beach resident and this would be his first installation in the city. The City Council will review the proposal at its meeting on February 24, 2015. This project has been funded by the Art in Public Places program. (Image attached.)

**First Friday Flicks at the Forum** - First Friday Flicks at the Forum will screen the comedy-drama film "Frank" on Friday, February 6, at the Forum Theatre located on the Festival of Arts grounds at 650 Laguna Canyon Road. Jon, a young wanna-be musician, discovers he's bitten off more than he can chew when he joins an eccentric pop band led by the mysterious and enigmatic Frank. This film is rated "R" with a running time of 95 minutes. This program has been funded through the generosity of Laguna Beach residents Steve Chadima and Mark Porterfield.

**Artist Open Studios** - Artist Open Studios will be held on Saturday, February 7, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Participants can catch a free shuttle from the ACT V parking lot, located at 1900 Laguna Canyon Road, and take advantage of free parking. Over 30 artists will be opening their studios, offering hands-on experiences and insights into their creative process. This is an opportunity to see artists working in a variety of media from glass fusion to bronze welding. This event is funded by the lodging establishments and the City of Laguna Beach. A brochure and map of participating studios is available at <http://www.lagunabeachcity.net/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=10497>.

**New Bike Routes Completed** - In October 2014, the City Council approved over five miles of bike route markings and signage for alternative routes off of Coast Highway. The installation of 50 bike route signs and 236 sharrows stenciled on the pavement were completed this week. The project also included designation of a dedicated bike lane along Monterey Drive. The signs for this dedicated lane have been installed, and the pavement stenciling will be done within the next two weeks. The bike route layout can be viewed on the City's website at the following web address:  
[http://lagunabeachcity.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\\_id=3&clip\\_id=407&meta\\_id=31303](http://lagunabeachcity.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=3&clip_id=407&meta_id=31303).

**Bike Racks Installed at Pepper Tree Parking Lot** - Bike racks for 12 bikes were added to the Pepper Tree parking lot along the west side in front of the car parking stalls. There were existing bike racks for four bikes that were replaced with the upgraded design. There are now bike racks for 16 bikes. Signs were also installed to identify the locations of the bike racks. (Image attached)

**Grant Approved for Laguna Canyon Road Median Turf Removal** - In November 2014, the City Council directed the City Manager to turn off the irrigation to the Laguna Canyon Road median turf, to remove the turf, and to apply for a grant from the Metropolitan Water District of Orange County to cover the costs under their Turf Removal Program. The water was turned off in November and a grant has been approved that will cover the cost of the turf removal, which is expected to be a little less than \$100,000. The work is expected to begin in the middle of February. After the turf has been removed, the area will be covered with mulch to provide dust and erosion prevention and to discourage weed growth. The elimination of this turf is expected to save up to one million gallons of water per year.

**Forest Avenue Banner Program** - Dates for the 2016 Forest Avenue Banner Program will be emailed to interested Laguna Beach non-profit organizations on Monday, February 9, at 9:00 a.m. At that time, City staff will begin accepting requests for 2016 banner dates on a first-come, first-serve basis, **by email only**. Banners will hang for a two-week period, and eligible local organizations may apply for a maximum of two banners per calendar year. The banner permit fee is \$50.00. If you have any questions or would like to be added to the email interest list, please contact Patty Slowsky, Senior Office Specialist, at (949) 497-0425.

#### **REMINDERS:**

**Community Assistance Grant Program** - The City of Laguna Beach is now accepting applications for the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Community Assistance Grant Program. Each year, the City Council awards grants to assist local non-profit organizations in funding new projects and/or expanding services within the community. Applications must be returned to the Community Services Department (515 Forest Avenue) by mail or in-person. Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Friday, February 27, 2015. More information regarding the Community Assistance Grant Program, including the application form, is available on the City's website: <http://www.lagunabeachcity.net/cityhall/community/grants.asp>.

**Community Emergency Response Team** - There are still seats available for the class starting Wednesday, March 25. Classes will meet weekly on Wednesday evenings from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The CERT program consists of 25 hours of classroom and hands-on training. It concludes with an exercise drill to apply the skills and knowledge obtained during the classroom sessions. Training topics include Disaster Preparedness, Fire Safety, Disaster Medical Operations, plus many more. Applications and the course schedule can be found at the front counter of the Police Department or on the City's website, <http://lagunabeachcity.net/cityhall/police/programs/cert.asp>.

**2015 Seasonal Rookie and Ocean Lifeguard Tryouts** - Tryouts will be held at Main Beach on Saturday, February 28, 2015, and Saturday, March 14, 2015. Attendance at one test session is required. Sign-in begins at 7:30 a.m. at the Main Beach Lifeguard White Tower. Candidates must be ready to enter the water promptly at 9:00 a.m. Exceptions or late arrivals cannot be accommodated. The City's online application procedure must be completed and application submitted prior to the filing deadline of Thursday, February 26, 2015, at 4:00 p.m. The Physical Testing and Training Waiver must also be completed and submitted prior to entering the water. Please carefully follow the online application instructions located on the City of Laguna Beach Employment website page at: [http://www.lagunabeachcity.net/cityhall/marine/employment .asp](http://www.lagunabeachcity.net/cityhall/marine/employment.asp).

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Sukhdev Dail

“Sea breeze” - Photo

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