

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 24, 2015
TO: City Council
FROM: John Pietig, City Manager
SUBJECT: WEEKLY UPDATES

Upgraded Eagle Rock Way Flashing Crosswalk - A Caltrans contractor will be constructing an upgraded flashing crosswalk system on Coast Highway at Eagle Rock Way beginning next week. The upgrades will include a completely new installation with additional overhead beacons and signs. The work is expected to be completed by the end of November. There are three remaining crosswalks on Coast Highway at unsignalized intersections that do not have the flashing crosswalk system, also referred to as “in roadway warning lights.” Those are Calliope, Anita, and Brooks. Caltrans has funding and is working on the design for an installation at Calliope, and they indicated that they will be seeking funding for the remaining two crosswalks. The contractor is Smart Tech Group, Inc. in Irvine. Questions regarding the project may be directed to Caltrans at 949-724-2000.

Great Start To Weekend Trolley Service - Total ridership over the first three (3) weekends of trolley service in September surpassed 30,000 passengers, nearly quadruple the number of riders necessary to sustain grant funding for the program. The “Coastal” trolley route includes a loop along Coast Highway extending from the Ritz Carlton in Dana Point to Cajon Street in North Laguna. The hours of operation are Fridays from 4:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m., Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m., and Sundays from 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. The weekend service is funded primarily by the Orange County Transportation Authority’s Project V grant program. The City’s grant funding is contingent on the expanded weekend service achieving minimum ridership goals, so it is critical for residents and visitors to continue riding the free trolleys to ensure the long-term viability of the program.

Chief Meets with OC Health Care Agency - On Tuesday, September 22, the chief along with her command staff and community outreach officer, Corporal Farris, met with representatives from the OC Health Care Agency to discuss a partnership where a clinician would work alongside Corporal Farris during his shift.

Laguna’s 19th Annual Pet Parade and Chili Cook-off – The City Manager, Chief Farinella and Captain Kravetz will participate as judges in this event on Sunday, September 27.

Village Entrance Community Workshop - The City will hold a Village Entrance community design workshop on Tuesday, September 29, from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. The workshop will be held at the Community and Susi Q Center (380 Third Street) and is the next step in the conceptual design process. The workshop will begin with a summary of feedback received at the June 23 walking tour and via the online engagement tool. Workshop attendees will have an opportunity to participate in a collaborative design exercise, and the project team encourages the public to bring images and graphics to be included as part of an “idea wall” for design inspiration. For more information on the Village Entrance Project, please visit: www.Village-Entrance.com

September 24, 2015

Weekly Updates

Page 2

Rotary Club's Annual Classic Car Show - On Sunday, October 4, the Forest/Laguna Canyon Road parking lot (Lot 11) will be closed from 5:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for the Laguna Beach Rotary Club's annual Classic Car Show.

Artist Open Studios - The public is invited to the "Artist Open Studios" artist reception on Thursday, October 1, 2015 at 5 p.m. at City Hall located at 505 Forest Avenue. The exhibition runs through October 9, 2015, and can be viewed Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Artist Open Studios has a new format! Artist Open Studios will be held on the weekend of October 17 & 18, 2015, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Participants can catch a free shuttle service 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 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 City of Laguna Beach. For additional information call Siân Poeschl, Cultural Arts Manager (949) 497-0722.

REMINDERS:

Annual Composting Classes - The City's solid waste hauler, Waste Management, will offer the last free composting class planned for 2015. Four free classes are offered each year. The class will be held on Saturday, September 26, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Top of the World School Garden/Outdoor Classroom, 21601 Treetop Lane. Compost bins and worm bins will be available for purchase during the class at a discounted price. Class attendees will be eligible to enter a raffle and win a free compost bin. For more information regarding the class, contact the Waste Management class instructor, Lisa Ryder, at (310) 874-2499, or by email at lisarydermoore@gmail.com.

Shakespeare's Fool - On Sunday, October 4, 2015, the Arts Commission will present Shakespeare's Fool. The free concert will be held at the Heisler Park Amphitheatre at 5:00 p.m. This fast paced performance includes artists Jason Feddy and John Gardiner with the songs and speeches from the plays of William Shakespeare. This program is funded by the lodging establishments and City of Laguna Beach and recently was awarded best Arts Program by the Laguna Beach Alliance for the Arts.

Heisler Park Artist Designed Bench Competition - The Arts Commission is currently accepting requests for qualifications for an artist designed bench at Heisler Park near Monument Point. Artists are invited to submit images of previous installations and their public art resume. The honorarium for this project is \$20,000. The deadline for submissions is October 5, 2015. Guidelines and application is available at <https://lagunabeachcity.slideroom.com/#/Login>.

Holiday Palette Competition - The Arts Commission is currently accepting designs to the annual competition. Winning artists will be provided with a wooden palette on which to paint their original design. The honorarium for this project is \$600. Designs must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Monday, October 5, 2015. The guidelines and application is available at: <http://www.lagunabeachcity.net/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=11295>

September 24, 2015

Weekly Updates

Page 3

Tell Us What You Think! - The City of Laguna Beach invites you to participate in three surveys that are important in planning for our future. Please participate in surveys relating to the Cultural Arts Plan, the Downtown Specific Plan Update and the Village Entrance Project. Thanks in advance for helping to shape the future of Laguna Beach!

- Cultural Arts Plan Community Survey (available through October 5, 2015):
<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2251774/Laguna-Beach-Survey>
- Downtown Specific Plan Retail Survey (available through October 5, 2015):
http://lagunabeachcity.net/cityhall/cd/planning/downtown_specific_plan_amendment/survey.asp

City Hosting SCE San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station Decommissioning Education Fair - The City is hosting an education fair organized and staffed by Southern California Edison to provide interested citizens with an opportunity to ask Edison representatives questions about the decommissioning of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station. The event is scheduled for October 8 from 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room at the Laguna Beach Community and Susi Q Center located at 380 Third Street.

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