

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 6, 2015

TO: City Council

FROM: John Pietig, City Manager

SUBJECT: WEEKLY UPDATES

Downtown Specific Plan Update - Joint City Council and Planning Commission Study Session - The City of Laguna Beach and MIG consulting team will continue their efforts on the Downtown Specific Plan (DSP) Update with a Joint City Council and Planning Commission Study Session on Tuesday, August 11, 2015, from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers. The main purpose of the meeting is to provide an overview of the public input received thus far during the DSP Update process, including that from the July 20 community workshop. The study session will include a focused review of preliminary observations, key ideas and strategies that are an essential foundation to a comprehensive update of the DSP. In addition, MIG will identify key topic areas and related policies within the existing DSP, and will provide their preliminary recommendations for updating these policies for consideration. This session plays an essential role for MIG to obtain direction from the City Council and Planning Commission, and to identify the City's priorities for the future of the Downtown. For more information, please view the [agenda](#) and [staff report](#) on the City's website or contact Wendy Jung, Senior Planner, at (949) 497-0321 or wjung@lagunabeachcity.net.

Construction Underway at High School Tennis Courts - A major renovation of the High School Tennis Court facility began on Wednesday, August 5. The contractor, Zaino Tennis Courts Inc., expects the project to be completed in mid-October. Portions of the sidewalk and on-street parking along Park Avenue will be closed during construction to allow access for equipment. This long-awaited project will address the surface cracking, drainage, lighting and fencing issues and provide high-quality courts for High School athletic programs and the community at-large. During construction, all High School and City tennis programs will be moved to Alta Laguna Park. If you have any questions regarding the project, please contact Jeff Dixon, Facilities Director for Laguna Beach Unified School District, at (949) 497-7700 ext. 5222, or by email at jdixon@lagunabeachschools.org.

Pearl Street Steps to Beach Closed – A retaining wall at the Pearl Street steps to the beach has failed. The steps will be closed until repairs can be made. It is expected that the repairs will be completed by the end of August.

Join Laguna Beach Firefighters in the Fight Against Muscular Dystrophy - Off-duty Laguna Beach Firefighters will be participating in the annual "Fill the Boot" fundraiser to help fight and find a cure for Muscular Dystrophy on Saturday, August 8. Firefighters will hit the streets in the downtown area where they will ask pedestrians and motorists to contribute money in a Firefighters' boot for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) from 10:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m. Laguna Beach Firefighters have partnered with the MDA for several years raising thousands of dollars right here in Laguna Beach while Firefighters throughout the nation raise over \$2 million each year.

REMINDERS:

Senior Housing Task Force – Needs Assessment Survey - A select sample of Laguna Beach residents received a survey in the mail to help identify the needs of the City's senior community members. The deadline for the mail-in survey has been extended to August 10. The response rate from the community is already higher than anticipated, but the City encourages residents that have received the survey to submit their comments. If you have any questions about this survey, please contact Belinda Deines, Associate Planner at (949) 464-6626 or bdeines@lagunabeachcity.net.

City Hall Exhibition - The public is invited to the "Laguna Plein Air Painters Exhibition" artist reception on Thursday, August 6, 2015, at 5 p.m. at City Hall located at 505 Forest Avenue. The exhibition runs through August 14, 2015, and can be viewed Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

2015 Juried Fine Art Exhibition - The Arts Commission is currently accepting submissions to the annual Juried Fine Art Exhibition at City Hall. The competition is open to Orange County artists 18 years of age or older with two dimensional works. The juror will be Malcolm Warner, Executive Director of the Laguna Art Museum. The first place winner will be awarded \$1,000. Applications must be made on-line with a non-refundable entry fee of \$25. The deadline for submissions is September 8, 2015. <http://www.lagunabeachcity.net/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=10352>.

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