

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** May 7, 2015  
**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** John Pietig, City Manager  
**SUBJECT:** WEEKLY UPDATES

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**State of the City Presentation** - The Mayor's May 6 "State of the City" presentation is now available on the "Announcements" section of the City's website at [www.lagunabeachcity.net](http://www.lagunabeachcity.net). The video file will be posted on the website by the end of the week.

**South Main Beach Restroom Replacement** - On May 18, a large drilling rig will be taking soil samples for design of a project to replace the restroom at south Main Beach. The restrooms and playground will remain open during the process. Adjacent businesses will be notified of the work.

**Proposed Sewer User Charge Increases Public Workshop** - A question-and-answer session will be held for the public on Thursday, May 14, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 505 Forest Avenue. Significant improvements are needed to replace aged sewer infrastructure with the goal of further increasing operational reliability and reducing sewer spills. In order to fund improvements in the capital improvement plan, sewer user rates need to be adjusted by 4.75% for each of the next four years and by 4% for the fifth year. The property owners within the City's sewer service area will receive a letter this week detailing proposed sewer user charge increases and announcing the workshop. The City Council will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, July 21, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as possible, in the City Council Chambers to consider increases to the sewer user charges imposed on real property within the City of Laguna Beach, excluding properties within the boundaries of the South Coast Water District. Questions or comments regarding the proposed rate increases should be directed to the City of Laguna Beach Water Quality Department at (949) 497-0378.

**Animal Cruelty Investigation** - The Police Department is actively investigating an animal cruelty incident which occurred at the Pacific Marine Mammal Center during the evening hours of April 27. A suspect entered the facility and placed a large amount of chlorine into one of the wading pools. This pool housed 17 sea lions who were about to be released after already receiving treatment for malnourishment and other ailments. All 17 animals were re-injured after swimming into the contaminated water and burning their corneas. They are being treated by staff veterinarians and are expected to make a full recovery. In the meantime, the Laguna Beach Detectives are working closely with federal officials to identify the suspect(s) involved in this crime. If any member of the public has any information about this incident, they are urged to call the Laguna Beach Police Department at (949) 497-0377 or the 24 hour National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration hotline at (800) 853-1964.

**Successful Annual Compost Giveaway** - Last Saturday, the City conducted the annual compost giveaway in cooperation with its contract waste hauler, Waste Management, and green waste recycling contractor, Tierra Verde Industries. In appreciation of recycling efforts by Laguna Beach residents, Tierra Verde supplied 10 tons of compost made from recycled green waste. The event at the ACT V parking lot ran from 7:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. when the compost ran out. Approximately 350 residents showed up for their free compost.

**Laguna Beach Represented at County Track Meet** - On Sunday, May 3, twenty local youth participated in the Orange County Track and Field Championships at Laguna Hills High School. The Laguna Beach team is comprised of boys and girls ranging from 5 to 14 years of age. They competed in various events including the long jump, the softball throw, the 50, 100, 200, 400, 800, and 1600 meter races. The Laguna Beach team had ten participants that placed in the top four in their respective events and are moving on to the Southern California Championships at Warren High School in Downey on Sunday, June 7.

**REMINDERS:**

**City Open House** - On Saturday, May 16, 2015, the City will be holding an “Open House” at City Hall, located at 505 Forest Avenue. Representatives from every Department in the City will be on site to answer questions and share how their specific Departments serve the City. The City Council will have a booth set up so Councilmembers may meet with members of the Community. There will be a balloon artist and face painter for the kids, refreshments, static displays of City vehicles and demonstrations by several departments. The event begins at 10:00 a.m. and last through 2:00 p.m. Local radio station KX 93.5 will be broadcasting live from the event. Please come out and learn about your City services!

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