

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 6, 2018
TO: City Council
FROM: John Pietig, City Manager
SUBJECT: WEEKLY UPDATES

Winter Weather Storms Predicted - The National Weather Service is advising of two winter storms that will impact Southern California on Wednesday and Thursday this week. The storms are predicted to bring between 1.5" and 2" of rain in total with periods of heavy rain. As a reminder, the City of Laguna Beach is providing pre-filled sandbags to residents and business owners from two locations. These sandbags are not for contractors. 1) Act V parking lot – 1900 Laguna Canyon Road; 2) Aliso Beach East parking lot – 31118 Coast Highway. Sandbags are also available at Laguna Beach's four fire stations. They are free; however, you must provide your own sand. It is not permitted to fill them with sand from Laguna's beaches or playgrounds. For local locations of where you can purchase sand please visit our <http://www.lagunabeachcity.net/cityhall/police/emergprep/sandbags.htm>

Three things you can do to prepare for the storms headed our way - 1) Go to AlertOC.com to register your cell phone numbers, text numbers, and email addresses into the mass notification system. It is recommended that you register your work and home addresses separately to ensure you receive proper notifications for each location. AlertOC is a critical link for residents and businesses to immediately learn of any required actions. Additionally, make sure you are registered for Nixle by texting "92651" to 888-777; 2) Get free sandbags if you're a local resident or business; 3) Clean your gutters, trim your trees, and turn off your sprinkler system.

Water Quality at Winter Fantasy - On December 16, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., the City of Laguna Beach Water Quality Department is collaborating with the Sawdust Art Festival Winter Fantasy. The City will be helping participants to design reusable bags using manhole lid patterns. The bags and workshop are free to the first 100 participants. The City encourages the public to stop by, make a bag, and learn about the City's Water Quality Department.

Free Parking and Free Trolley to Sawdust Festival - The Sawdust Winter Fantasy is open weekends now through December 16. Bring the kids, meet Santa, and finish your holiday shopping early. Park for free in the Act V parking lot (Lot 16) and we'll take you there on our free trolley. Did we mention that parking and the trolley are FREE? See you at the Sawdust! <https://sawdustartfestival.org/>

Friendship Shelter Seeking Blankets - Friendship Shelter needs blankets and twin-size comforters for the Alternative Sleeping Location (ASL). Donations are being accepted daily from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at 1335 South Coast Highway (please check in at the front desk, located at the top of the external stairs at the back of the building facing Gaviota Drive.) Thank you in advance for your donations.

Trees Being Replanted Along Coast Highway - As part of the City Tree Replanting Project, the City's Public Works Department is planting 30 street trees in the downtown area and along Coast Highway to

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replace trees that have fallen or been removed. The City also accepted a donation of \$30,000 from the Laguna Beach Urban Tree Fund, which allowed the City to enhance the project by planting 24 and 36-inch box trees in lieu of 15-gallon trees and to provide deep watering tubes. The project includes planting the trees, installing a permeable rubberized tree well surfacing system, root barriers, watering tubes and a 120-day plant irrigation and plant establishment period.

Bluebird SOCWA Odor Control System Going Forward - The Water Quality Department has successfully worked with the neighbors and interested community members to collaborate on an acceptable location of the odor control system for the Bluebird lift station.

Cultural Arts Calendar - Looking for arts events this holiday season, visit the City of Laguna Beach and Laguna Beach Arts Alliance Cultural Arts Calendar on-line for events from December 2018, through February 2019. https://staging.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/lbvcb/artscalendar_18121902/stage.php. Funded by the lodging establishments and City of Laguna Beach.

Accurate Crime Statistics - Since 2016, violent crimes (murder, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, simple assault) have decreased 17% in the City of Laguna Beach. Property crimes in the City have decreased 38%. These numbers reflect crime statistics through November 26, 2018. Laguna Beach crime rate information is listed on certain relocation websites and is not representative of the actual situation. Using per capita metrics to compare Laguna Beach's crime rates or spending statistics is also not representative because it does not take into account that Laguna Beach services six million visitors per year in addition to our residents. When fairly evaluating how many employees, both sworn and non-sworn, are needed to appropriately police a city, the size of the residential, working and visitor community must all be considered.

Finance Officer Nancy Pauley Hired as Palm Springs Director of Finance - The City of Laguna Beach is accepting applications for the position of Finance Officer in the Administrative Services Department. The position has opened because Laguna Beach Finance Officer Nancy Pauley has been hired as the new Director of Finance for the City of Palm Springs. Pauley's last day with the City of Laguna Beach was November 30th. Pauley has worked for the City of Laguna Beach for over 10 years, working annually on the City's budget. She also played a key role in the City's Excellence in Financial Reporting Award for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR.) To receive the Certificate of Achievement, a governmental unit must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive Annual Financial Report, whose contents conform to program standards. This is the third consecutive year the City has received the award. "Nancy has been the driving force behind our recognition of financial reporting awards, and she has been an instrumental part of the City's Finance Division for the last decade," said Director of Administrative Services Gavin Curran. "She leaves big shoes to fill, and we wish her continued success in her new role as Director of Finance for the City of Palm Springs." Details of the position and instructions on how to apply can be found at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/lagunabeach>. The position will remain open until filled.