

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 1, 2019
TO: City Council
FROM: John Pietig, City Manager
SUBJECT: WEEKLY UPDATES

Free Home Wildfire Consultation - The City of Laguna Beach is encouraging residents to better prepared in the event of a wildfire by creating a defensible space and a defensible home. This can be done by safeguarding your home by using fire-safe construction materials, and to look for points of entry where embers could intrude into the home or attic during a fire. Home and property safety preparation should also include creating defensible space around your home by clearing vegetation at least 30 to 100 feet away from your home and using fire resistant landscaping to help stop the spread of wildfire. Residents should also remove all dead or dying vegetation from their yard, roof and rain gutters. What happens during a wildfire consultation? Our experienced fire fighters will come to your home and offer advice about how you can prepare your property and home for a wildfire. Residents can sign up for a free wildfire consultation by calling the Laguna Beach Fire Department at (949) 497-0700 or by visiting http://www.lagunabeachcity.net/cityhall/fire/fire_prevention/sign_up.htm.

Come Join Us for National Night Out Tuesday, August 6 - The Laguna Beach Police Department invites you to come out and join us for our 1st Annual National Night Out event on Tuesday, August 6 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the Laguna Beach High School Baseball Field. Laguna’s Finest will step up to the plate against Laguna’s Bravest in a friendly battle at the Guns N’ Hoses Softball Game. Gates will open at 5:00 p.m. for pre-game activities and a K-9 Demo. “Mr. Laguna” Skipper Carrillo will be there to throw the first pitch! There will be FREE hot dogs, chips and a drink for all attendees. National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. We hope you will swing on by for some fun!

CERT Registration Now Open - The Laguna Beach Police Department, in collaboration with the Laguna Beach Fire Department, is excited to announce registration for the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Course. A Community Emergency Response Team is an organized and trained group of volunteers ready to assist in case of a disaster. The CERT program consists of 25 hours of classroom and hands-on training and it concludes with an exercise drill to apply the skills and knowledge obtained during the classroom sessions. Training will begin on Tuesday, September 3, 2019. Classes will then meet weekly from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., including two Saturday morning meetings. The final exercise/drill takes place on Saturday, October 5, 2019.

Mandatory attendance is required at all classes. To be considered for this training, you must be a resident of Laguna Beach or work within the city limits, be at least 18 years old and have no felony convictions. Applications must be submitted through the online recreation class sign-up: <http://bit.ly/2tmh9vi> All individuals will receive a confirmation email if accepted into the program.

Changes Made to Municipal Code Parking Requirements Encourage Business Growth - At its meeting July 23, the City Council adopted changes to the City's Municipal Code regarding parking requirements to stimulate an improvement to local economic conditions. Changes to commercial-related parking provisions include clarifying that interior remodels to existing commercial buildings are not considered an intensification of use, thus do not require additional parking be provided. The changes will also encourage sharing of retail spaces between multiple tenants by not requiring multiple tenants within one commercial building each meet parking requirements. Instead, parking requirements will remain dependent on the property's floor area. This will encourage small business opportunities and the sharing of facilities and staff, greater availability for brick and mortar locations to compete with internet sales, improve economic viability by bringing in a wider customer base, and will aid chronically vacant larger units in the City to become easier occupied based on shared tenancy. The adopted parking requirement changes will now go a second reading by the City Council, after which the changes will need to be sent to the California Coastal Commission for review and approval.

Park Avenue Roadwork - From Monday, August 12, to Friday, August 16, street repairs will be conducted on Park Avenue between Wendt Terrace and Short Street between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Traffic impacts can be anticipated due to lane closures. For more information, please contact Engineering Technician, Alpha Santos, at (949) 497-0729 or asantos@lagunabeachcity.net.

Lang Park Asphalt Pathway Repairs and Park Closure - On Thursday, August 1, the Public Works Department will be slurry sealing the asphalt pathways at Lang Park. The park will be closed from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. during the work. A tot lot playground is available during the closure at a nearby park, Bluebird Park, located at 772 Cress St. Tennis courts are available at Moulton Meadows Park near the intersection of Balboa Ave. and Cortez Ave. and at Alta Laguna Park at the north end of Alta Laguna Blvd. For more information, please contact Maintenance Supervisor, Mel Summer, at (949) 497-0783 or msummer@lagunabeachcity.net.

Annual Composting Classes - The City's solid waste hauler, Waste Management, will offer a free composting class on Saturday, August 3, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Bluebird Park located at 798 Bluebird Canyon Drive. Compost and worm bins will be available for purchase during the class at a discounted price. For more information visit the city's website at www.lagunabeachcity.net/recycling, or contact the Waste Management class instructor, Lisa Ryder, at (310) 874-2499.

"City Chats" on KX 93.5 - "City Chats" returns to the air on Thursday August 15th at 8:00 p.m. on KX 93.5. Listeners can also tune in to the segment online at kx935.com or on the iHeartRadio App. Each week get to know members of our Laguna Beach City staff as they talk about the programs, services and community initiatives that make their City Departments shine. They will

also share some of their favorite tunes and the stories behind them. Tune in to “City Chats” Thursday, August 15, at 8:00 p.m. on KX 93.5!

Be Rattlesnake Aware - According to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), rattlesnakes are widespread in California and are found in a variety of habitat throughout the state from Coastal to desert. They may also turn up around homes and yards in brushy areas and under wood piles. Generally not aggressive, rattlesnakes will likely retreat if given room and not provoked or threatened. Most bites occur when a rattlesnake is handled or accidentally brushed against by someone walking or climbing. The California Poison Control System notes that the chances of being bitten are small compared to the risk of other environmental injuries. Most bites occur between the months of April and October when snakes and humans are most active outdoors. CDFW provides [tips for safely living in snake country](#) on its website, at <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Keep-Me-Wild/Rattlesnakes> as well as tips for keeping snakes out of your yard and what do to do (and not do) in the event of a snake bite. Additional resources can be found on the www.CaliforniaHerps.com [Living with Rattlesnakes](#) webpage.

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Emergency Kit Backpacks for Sale - Getting prepared for emergencies has never been easier! A Laguna Beach specific Emergency Kit Backpack is available for purchase. The kit includes the following: AM/FM hand crank radio with flashlight and cell phone charger, 4-in-1 gas and water utility shut off tool, glow sticks, bio-hazard bags, nitrile gloves, N95 mask, 54-piece first aid kit, duct tape, emergency poncho, solar blanket, and a personal hygiene kit. Additionally, the kit will contain emergency plan templates and disaster-specific information. Each red backpack will feature an official City of Laguna Beach Seal. You can purchase the Laguna Beach specific Emergency Kit Backpack for \$50.00 on the City’s website via <https://bit.ly/2DlnFGy> or in person at the Community and Susi Q Center, 380 Third Street during normal business hours. No profits are being made from the sale of this backpack. Let’s get PREPARED!