

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 13, 2020
TO: City Council
FROM: John Pietig, City Manager
SUBJECT: WEEKLY UPDATES

Holiday Trolley Schedule - On Monday, February 17, trolley service will operate on a regular weekday schedule during the President's Day holiday, with service on the three neighborhood routes and the Weekday Coastal route between 6:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Please visit www.lagunabeachcity.net/trolley or call (949) 497-0766 for additional information.

Holiday Street Sweeping Schedule - On Monday, February 17, street sweeping will only occur in commercial areas due to the President's Day holiday. For more information, please contact Senior Fleet Maintenance Supervisor, Austin Comp at (949) 464-6637.

Review of Historic Preservation Ordinance - On Wednesday, February 26, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers the Planning Commission is scheduled to review Amendments to the General Plan, Zoning Ordinance, the Residential Design Guidelines and Local Coastal Program (GPA 19-5414/ZOA 17-0289/ LCP 17-0388) to provide a voluntary historic preservation program. The Planning Commission will review the proposed changes and provide a recommendation to the City Council.

Retail Market Evaluation for Downtown Specific Plan Area - The City hired Stanley R. Hoffman Associates, Inc. and Stoffel & Associates to provide a market assessment of existing retail conditions, and to assist in evaluating and potentially modifying permit processing procedures to allow for both permitted-by-right and conditional uses in the Downtown Specific Plan (DSP) area. The retail consultants will present key findings and recommendations of the Draft DSP Area Retail Market Evaluation on Wednesday, February 26, 2020, during a special Planning Commission meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall (505 Forest Avenue). A staff report will be available and posted on the City's website by February 21, 2020. At the meeting, City staff will be seeking Planning Commission and public comment on the document for City Council consideration. The City Council will consider this effort and continue review of the DSP Update project during the special City Council meeting on March 24, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The Retail Market Evaluation and direction received from the City Council will inform land use policy decisions for the DSP Update. For more information or to view a copy of the draft document visit <http://www.lagunabeachcity.net/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?blobid=24076> or contact: Wendy Jung, Senior Planner at (949) 497-0321 or wjung@lagunabeachcity.net.

Village Entrance - Construction for the final phase of the Village Entrance project will begin on February 18 and will require closure of the Lumberyard parking lot (Lot 12). Starting February 14, Lots 10 and 11 will be available to the public. Parking spaces around the digester building will be reserved for City Hall employees, Monday through Friday between 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., and will be available to the public on evenings and weekends. For questions or concerns, please contact Tom Perez, Project Director, at (949) 464-6688 or tperez@lagunabeachcity.net.

Laguna Beach Chamber of Commerce to Host Annual State of the City Luncheon - The Laguna Beach Chamber of Commerce will host its annual "State of the City" luncheon on Thursday, May 14 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Montage Laguna Beach, 30801 South Coast Highway. Laguna Beach Mayor Bob Whalen and City officials will present the State of the City Address. The luncheon is sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and provides attendees a great opportunity to get an up-close look at City activities, recent highlights from the past 12 months and City goals for the near future. To reserve tickets or for more information, call (949) 494-1018 or go to LagunaBeachChamber.org.

Parking Sensor Installation - On Tuesday, February 18, crews are scheduled to begin installing parking sensors at metered spaces along Upper Cliff Drive between Broadway and Aster as part of the second phase of the Smart Parking Guidance Project. Work will begin at approximately 7:00 a.m. and completed by 6:00 p.m. On-street parking will be limited during this time. For questions, please contact Michael Litschi, Deputy Director of Public Works at (949) 497-0303 or mlitschi@lagunabeachcity.net.

Laguna Canyon Road Slope Repair - Caltrans has completed the slope stabilization work on the west side of Laguna Canyon Road between Canyon Acres Drive and Woodland Drive. On February 13, Laguna Canyon Road will be reduced to one lane in each direction between 8:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m. to allow workers to remove the concrete barriers. Please direct any questions to Caltrans Project Manager, John Nowak, at (949) 279-8511.

SCE Pole Removal at S. Coast Highway - On Thursday, February 20, between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Southern California Edison (SCE) will be removing a utility pole located at the northeast intersection of S. Coast Hwy and Calliope Street. This work is associated with Caltrans' Calliope Flashing Beacon project. The northbound lane closest to the curb on S. Coast Highway will be intermittently blocked between Mountain Road and Bluebird Canyon Drive during the work. For questions or concerns, please contact SCE's Customer Service number at (800) 655-4555.

Registration Open for Leadership Laguna Citizen's Academy - The City of Laguna Beach is pleased to announce registration is now open for Leadership Laguna 2020, a citizen's academy consisting of a series of five workshops. The purpose of these workshops is to introduce participants to the various operations of the City. The program will provide information about the City's various departments, committees, and commissions. Speakers from each department will address the participant's questions. Leadership Laguna takes place on five Thursday evenings beginning on March 12 and ending April 16. Space in the academy is limited, so interested candidates should submit their application as early as possible. To register go to www.lagunabeachcity.net/leadershiplaguna or contact Jeremy Frimond, Senior Administrative Analyst in the City Manager's Office, at jfrimond@lagunabeachcity.net or (949) 464-6673.

Search Underway for New Director of Public Works - The City of Laguna Beach has started a comprehensive search for a new Director of Public Works as current Assistant City Manager/Director of Public Works Shohreh Dupuis has been assigned to the position of Laguna Beach Assistant City Manager. As Assistant City Manager, Dupuis will lead many special projects and programs such as Wildfire Safety and Mitigation Plan, economic development, property acquisitions, and other City Council priorities and will oversee all of the following City Departments and functions: Public Works, Community Services, and Cultural Arts and Communication Team. The City estimates it will take four to six months to complete a comprehensive search, recruit and hire a new Director of Public Works. Manual Gomez, the

former Irvine Director of Public Works, has been retained as an interim Director of Public Works effective February 10, 2020. Due to the recently vacated position of Assistant City Manager, the reorganization of the City's Executive Staff is cost-neutral.

Thurston Middle School Parking Impacts - Thurston Middle School will be hosting its annual Destination Imagination event on Saturday, February 29, 2020 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. This is a major event and the school expects up to 700 attendees. Parking in and around Thurston will be impacted and there will be two shuttle vans going back and forth all day from the district office lot to the school. Any questions should be directed to the school district at (949) 497-7700 Ext. 5218.

Junior Lifeguards - Registration for the 2020 Junior Lifeguard program is now open to Laguna Beach residents. Participants must pass the required swim test or have participated in the 2019 program to be eligible to register. The first swim tests of this year will be held this Friday, February 14, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, February 15, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. All swim tests take place at the Laguna Beach High School and Community Pool, located at 670 Park Avenue. Additional information about the program, including a list of swim test dates, is available at: <http://bit.ly/2RAIQcl>, or please call (949) 497-0788 for questions.

Leaf Blower Reminder - The City is reminding community members that leaf blowers continue to be illegal to use within the City limits. These include the operation of electric and gas-powered blowers which are described in Laguna Beach Municipal Code 7.25.070(D). Warnings and/or citations may be issued when Code Enforcement Staff view someone using one of these devices. Homeowners who receive complaints will also be sent letters educating them about the law.