

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 12, 2010
TO: City Council
FROM: Kenneth Frank, City Manager
SUBJECT: FRIDAY UPDATES

725 Laguna Canyon Road – This week, the Planning Commission heard a proposal for development of this vacant lot which lies between Art-A-Fair and the City parking lot. The applicant is now proposing 14 student housing, artist live-work rental units and 16 artist live-work condominiums. Commissioners felt that the plan was much improved over earlier versions but still had a lot of program for the site.

Laguna Terrace Mobile Home Park – The Coastal Commission staff has taken the position that the transfer of the mobile home park from a rental facility to ownership is an appealable project. We strongly disagree with that position. The Commission will be discussing it at its meeting on Friday. The applicant for the conversion will be addressing the Commission.

Aliso Creek Pedestrian Overcrossing Repair -- Caltrans plans to refurbish the pedestrian bridge over Coast Highway, just north of Aliso Creek, during April and May.

OCTA Bus Service Reductions - Beginning March 14th, OCTA will implement planned service reductions throughout its service area. Many routes will have longer wait times between buses while some routes will be eliminated. A few routes will actually be added in place of others that will be eliminated. Only one of the two bus routes through Laguna Beach will be minimally affected. Route 89, which runs between the Downtown Bus Depot and Mission Viejo via Laguna Canyon Road, will have the times between buses on weekends extended from 45 minutes to 70 minutes throughout most of the day. After 5:00 p.m., the 60 minute scheduled time between buses will be increased to 90 minutes. Route 1 along Coast Highway will not be affected. The OCTA service reductions, as well as significant staff reductions, are a consequence of reduced tax revenues from the State and declining sales tax revenues.