

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 17, 2011
TO: City Council
FROM: John Pietig, City Manager
SUBJECT: WEEKLY UPDATES

Outstanding Effort! – Deputy Fire Chief Jeff LaTendresse was driving down Thalia Street, on his day off March 11th, about 7:45 a.m. He noticed smoke coming from a home at 550 Thalia. Chief LaTendresse immediately stopped to assist. He woke the sleeping residents and advised them to evacuate their house while notifying dispatch of the fire. Chief LaTendresse remained on-scene and commanded the fire resources until the fire was extinguished. Twenty fire personnel from Laguna Beach and OCFA were able to aggressively fight the fire and limit the damage to a storage area. No injuries were reported and damage is estimated at \$100,000.

Broadway Streetscape Improvement Project – A preliminary plan for the beautification of Broadway between the Bus Depot and Forest Avenue will be reviewed by the Planning Commission next Wednesday. The project design includes decorative sidewalk, enhanced landscaping and public art. Design of the project is 75% funded through a Federal Transportation Enhancement grant.

Emerald Bay Traffic Signal – Emerald Bay is working with Caltrans to add a traffic signal near its entrance. The project will be considered by the Board of Supervisors on March 23.

Fireworks Permit Workshop – On March 11, staff members from the San Diego Regional Board met with stakeholders, including Laguna Beach Water Quality staff, at a public workshop to further develop the new regional Fireworks Permit. Provisions in the proposed Permit would allow public display of Fireworks this July 4th. The target date for the Regional Board to adopt the proposed Permit is May 11, 2011.

55+ Art Exhibit at the Community and Senior Center - Previously named the “Senior Art Show”, the 55+ Art Exhibit will run from Monday, March 14 through Friday, April 15 at the Community and Senior Center. On Friday, March 18 Mayor Toni Iseman will announce the exhibit winners. This year, the show moved from Wells Fargo Bank to the Community and Senior Center and includes over 60 entries from local artist in the following categories: Acrylics, Oils, Watercolor, Mixed Media, Photography & Drawing.

Art That’s Small at City Hall - On Saturday, March 19, 2011 between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. the Arts Commission will be accepting entries to the annual juried “Art That’s Small at City Hall” exhibition. This year the exhibition will be juried by Carla Tesak Arzente (First Thursday’s Art Walk); Brad Coleman (Laguna College of Art and Design); and Jeff Horn (Laguna Plein Air Painters Association). A reception and awards ceremony will be held at 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 7, 2011 where the winners will be announced. The exhibition will be open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Thursday, April 28, 2011. This program is funded by the lodging establishments and City of Laguna Beach.

2011 Banner Competition - The Arts Commission is currently accepting designs for the annual Banner Competition. The competition is open to Orange County residents and guidelines are available on the City’s web-site. The deadline to submit designs is Monday, March 21, 2011. This program is funded by the lodging establishments and City of Laguna Beach.