

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** May 12, 2011  
**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** John Pietig, City Manager

**SUBJECT: WEEKLY UPDATES**

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**Cox Files for Relief of Regulation** – Cox Communication has filed, with the FCC, for relief of regulation regarding its cable television service due to the penetration levels of satellite television companies. Laguna Beach does not presently regulate the rates of cable television companies.

**Plastic Bag Ban** - Last week the California Supreme Court heard the City of Manhattan Beach Plastic Bag Ban case. The case centers around whether a local government is required to perform an Environmental Impact Report prior to banning the distribution of plastic grocery bags. Several cities and counties have performed EIRs and then adopted ordinances banning or regulating plastic and paper bags. Others tried enacting regulations with a Mitigated Negative Declaration or Categorical Exemption, and were sued by the plastic manufacturers for allegedly failing to comply with California Environmental Quality Act analysis requirements. The Manhattan Beach case could resolve those issues. The Court has 90 days to rule.

**Fourth of July Fireworks will go on!** – The San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board voted 6-0 this week to approve a process whereby permits can be issued to allow fireworks on an annual basis. The details of the process have not yet been finalized; however, it is expected that the permit will cost about \$1,500. Some type of best management practices will also be identified to clean up after events.

**Top of The World Hiking Trail Repaired** – The short hiking trail from Old Top of The World to the Fire Road leading to Arch Beach heights was badly eroded from last year's storms. City crews spent a couple of days this week filling in all of the ruts.

**Caltrans Sidewalk Repair** – Next week, Caltrans will begin replacing damaged concrete sidewalk, curb, gutter and driveways on Broadway/Laguna Canyon Road between Coast Highway and Woodland Drive. Work will be completed prior to the Memorial Day weekend. The second phase of this project will be on North Coast Highway and will begin in September.

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