

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 18, 2011
TO: City Council
FROM: John Pietig, City Manager
SUBJECT: WEEKLY UPDATES

\$450,000 Proposition 84 Grant Awarded - The Sewer System Strategic Plan identifies several lift stations in the city that need reconstruction. This week, the California Department of Water Resources announced the award of a \$450,000 grant to Laguna Beach to assist with the cost of replacing the Rockledge sewage lift station and related sewer lines. The grant funds are provided by Proposition 84. While this award was anticipated in the current budget, it was only made official this week. The Water Quality Department has done an outstanding job at pursuing these funding opportunities.

Private Lateral Liner Restitution for Repairs – A home on Cerritos Drive was recently found to have their private lateral lined improperly. The plumber had mistakenly installed and cured the lateral liner too far and blocked the City’s main pipeline resulting in a sewer spill. The plumbing company has agreed to pay over \$4,700 in restitution for City staff time and materials expended to respond to the problem.

Fireworks Water Sampling Preliminary Brief – Ocean water samples were collected before and after the Independence Day fireworks display and are chemically analyzed for fireworks related pollutants. The testing did not find any constituents that were abnormally elevated. The purpose of collecting ocean water data is to build a body of data over several years. The data collected may eventually be combined with other local and regional water quality data to determine the impacts, if any; the fireworks show may have on ocean chemistry.

Lang Park Buildings Renovation – Renovation of the Lang Park Buildings is 90% completed. The work involves new roofing, new windows in the building occupied by Anneliese's School, repainting of the interior of the gymnasium area, and floor and wall renovation in the multipurpose room. All work will be completed next week except for the skylights, which will be completed by mid-September.

September Sunset Serenades - The Arts Commission will be holding four concerts in September at the amphitheater at Rockpile in Heisler Park. The concerts start at 5:30 p.m. and are free. Performances will be as follows: September 9, John Troy (featuring Bob Hawkins), Singer/songwriter; September 16, El Re’al Chamber Players, String trio; September 23, Kevin Kanner Trio, Jazz; and September 30, Roland and Adriane, piano and vocals. This program has been funded by the lodging establishments and City of Laguna Beach.

September 11 Ceremony and Dedication - The public is invited to attend the dedication of the sculpture “Semper Memento” at 11:00 a.m., September 11, 2011, at Monument Point in Heisler Park. The sculpture is created from two steel beam artifacts from the World Trade Center and includes a reflective sphere. The artwork is created by local artist Jorg Dubin. Created as a memorial to the tragic events of September 2001, the sculpture conveys a message of reflection, remembrance and respect. The steel beam artifacts were donated to the City of Laguna Beach from the New York and New Jersey Port Authority and their transportation and installation has been funded through a generous donation by Laguna Beach resident Mark Porterfield.

Animal Shelter Grand Reopening Delayed - The Grand Reopening will be delayed until early September although the Animal Shelter opened to the public on August 16th. The official “Reopening” is being delayed to allow time for furniture to arrive that was damaged by the December floods.

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Weekly Updates

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Terrace Drain Inspections this Year - City staff will be inspecting the terrace storm drains during September/October and contacting property owners of any obstructions that will prevent storm drain function. This effort is in addition to the annual reminder letter sent out around September 1st notifying property owners to keep their drains clear.

Lifeguards Kept Busy With Recent Swell Activity - This past Tuesday the Marine Safety Department made 128 rescues on city beaches. Fifty-five (55) of those rescues were made at Treasure Island Beach by two tower lifeguards and the division four supervisors. Another 95 rescues were made on Wednesday. The four to six foot swell from the southern hemisphere was inconsistent giving beachgoers a false sense of security.

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