

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 29, 2011
TO: City Council
FROM: John Pietig, City Manager
SUBJECT: WEEKLY UPDATES

Heisler Park Interpretive Sign Series Successfully Installed Along Heisler Park Walkway – A coastal themed interpretive sign series has been installed along the seaward trail of Heisler Park from Diver’s Cove to the stairs above lifeguard headquarters. The six signs are full color depictions with themes covering the kelp forest, ocean pollution, tide pool habitat, tide pool animals, seabirds, and marine mammals. The signs were designed by the Marine Safety Department in collaboration with Water Quality, installed by the Public Works Department, and funded by the Heisler Park grant.

Laguna Canyon Road Resurfacing – During the first three days of this week, Caltrans was grinding pavement on Laguna Canyon Road in preparation for placement of a layer of new asphalt. This work caused considerable traffic problems. The remainder of the work will be done at night to minimize traffic impacts. There will be daytime work for striping near the end of the project in November. The traffic detection loops have been removed at the Festival traffic signal and at Canyon Acres. The signals will operate on a timed basis until the loops are replaced in November. Because of this, the signals will go through a complete cycle whether or not there is traffic or pedestrians.

Code Enforcement Supervisor - Joe Trujillo, Code Enforcement Supervisor, has accepted a Code Enforcement Manager position with the City of Santa Monica. We wish Joe the best in his new position. A recruitment is underway to fill this position.

Food Waste Diversion Pilot Programs – The City is piloting commercial off-site and on-site food waste diversion programs, with the objective of reducing the amount of waste that is sent to the landfill. The Montage and the Tommy Bahamas Restaurant began processing food waste on-site in 2010. Food dehydrators are used to reduce food waste by approximately 90 percent by drying the food waste at 180 degrees for about 18 hours. The output resembles coffee grounds and is used as a fertilizer by the Montage. Waste Management recently began off-site food waste collection after testing the program at the Montage last year. Food waste is collected at the Montage, Albertsons and the Katsuya Restaurant four times per week and transported to Waste Management’s food and organic recycling facility in Orange. Using a separation process, contaminants are removed from the organic waste, which is then turned into organic slurry that can be mixed with other complementary liquids to maximize its use in creating green energy. The Broadway by Amar Santana Restaurant will participate in this program starting next month. Waste Management will also provide carts for food waste collection at the Taste of Laguna and Community Expo event

Fallen Firefighter Memorial – On October 1st, 2011, the annual memorial for California’s fallen firefighters will be held at the Memorial Wall in Sacramento’s Capitol Park. Our own David Lopez will be performing at the ceremony with approximately 200 other bag pipers. Mr. Lopez will be representing the Laguna Beach Fire Department while off-duty and funding the trip through donations and his own money.

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