

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** January 23, 2014  
**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** John Pietig, City Manager  
**SUBJECT: WEEKLY UPDATES**

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**Anne Belyea Transit Coordinator** - Anne Belyea presently works for the City in a part-time capacity as the Transit Coordinator and will be expanding her role to take on implementation of the Parking Management Plan. She will be working with Deputy City Manager/Director of Community Services Ben Siegel to implement the Parking Management plan recommendations approved by the City Council this week. Anne has an MBA degree, a Transportation Demand Management Certification from California State Fullerton, and previously worked as the Executive Director for the South Coast Metro Transportation Management Association. Anne's transportation background will be very helpful in evaluating and implementing new parking programs and linking them to public transit services. Anne will be starting her new responsibilities on Friday, January 24. Anne lives in town with her family.

**Artist Open Studios** - Artist Open Studios will be held on Saturday, February 1, 2014 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Participants can catch a free shuttle service from the Act V parking lot, located at 1900 Laguna Canyon Road, and take advantage of free parking. Over 30 artists will be opening their studios, offering hands-on experiences and insights into their creative process. This is opportunity to see artists working in a variety of media from glass blowing to bronze welding. This event is funded by the lodging establishments and City of Laguna Beach.

**First Friday Flicks at the Forum** - First Friday Flicks at the Forum will be held on Friday, February 7, 2014 at the Forum Theatre located at the Festival of Arts grounds at 650 Laguna Canyon Road. A no-host bar will be available at Tivoli Terrace at 6 p.m. and the film will be screened at 7 p.m. The Oscar nominated film titled "20 Feet from Stardom" is a feature length documentary that shines a spotlight on the untold true story of the backup singers behind some of the greatest musical legends of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This film is rated PG-13 with a running time of 91 minutes. This program has been funded through the generosity of Laguna Beach residents Steve Chadima and Mark Porterfield.

**Community Assistance Grant Funds** - The City is now accepting applications for the Fiscal Year 2014-15 Community Assistance Grant Program. This program is available to non-profit and/or public organizations that provide services to residents of Laguna Beach. The objective of the program is to assist local organizations in funding new projects and/or expanded services within our community. More information regarding the grant program, including the application form, is available on the City's website: <http://www.lagunabeachcity.net/cityhall/community/grants.asp>. Applications must be submitted to the Community Services Department, 515 Forest Avenue, by mail or in person. Applications will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 28, 2014.

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**Drought Emergency Response** - The Governor has declared a drought emergency. The City has been, and will continue to take steps to reduce water use. City Hall and City Fire Stations have waterless urinals. One key example is the City's use of "smart irrigation controllers" in City Parks. The controllers limit water usage based on weather conditions. In light of the drought, the controllers will further limit watering to a maximum of twice per week.

**No Smoking Enforcement** - In the wake of a five day Red Flag event, Police and Fire Department staff have been working with the City Council to reduce the chance of a wild land fire. New signs are being installed and officers have issued four citations for smoking on the trails near Top of the World. On Tuesday evening, the City Council approved a recommendation from the Emergency Disaster Preparedness Committee to establish a pilot program which would restrict parking during red flag days in areas with narrow streets near wild land. An increase in the fine to \$1,000 for smoking in certain areas will take effect February 21, 2014.

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