

Community Facilities and Services

Laguna Beach has an active local government, citizenry and nonprofit sector that together provide a wide array of community facilities and services. The City of Laguna Beach is a full-service municipality providing general government services, police and fire services, roads, wastewater, land use, park and recreation programs, and much more. Citizens serve on numerous boards and actively voice their ideas and concerns on many important issues. The nonprofit sector covers many areas and often collaborates with government to further serve the residents of Laguna Beach and its visitors.

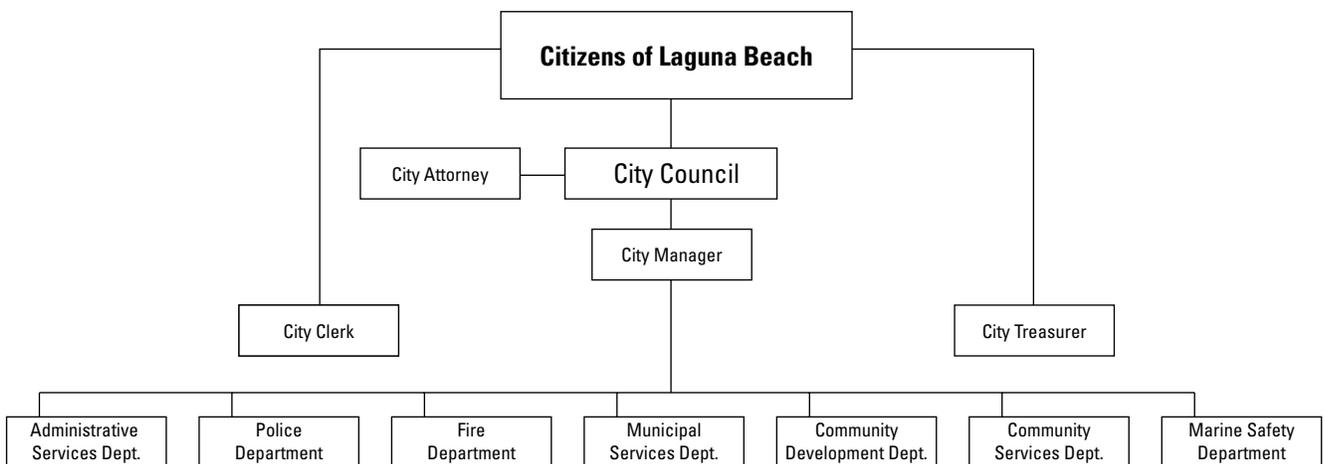


City Governance

The City of Laguna Beach operates under the Council-Manager form of government. A five-member City Council is elected at large, each member serving a four-year term. The Council is responsible for the legislative functions of the City, while the City Manager oversees all administrative operations. With the exception of the elected City Clerk and City Treasurer, each City Department Head reports to the City Manager who, in turn, reports to the City Council. The City is organized into seven major departments as shown in Figure 16.

In order to secure community input, the City Council appoints residents to serve on 12 standing committees and commissions, which advise the Council on everything from the arts to open space. (Figure 17 shows the City's standing committees and commissions and the recent accomplishments of each body.) In all, over 70 citizens serve on City committees. The City Council also seeks community input at bi-monthly city council meetings and through the City web site. The City sends the Laguna Beach Annual Report to all households to keep residents apprised of current events and of the City's accomplishments and financial status.

Figure 16
CITY ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



Source: City of Laguna Beach

**Figure 17
CITY OF LAGUNA BEACH COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS**

Appointed Committees and Commissions	Members	Committee Purpose and Recent Accomplishments
Planning Commission	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a public forum for issues related to land use planning • Reviews proposed City ordinances, and other development related issues • Reviews applications for conditional use permits, subdivisions, general plan amendments, and specific plans
Arts Commission	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makes recommendations to the City about Art in Public Places projects and runs annual events • Completed mural on Forest Lane • Installed three artists' designed public benches • Installed public art in Heisler Park
Design Review Board Board of Adjustment/	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviews and approves or disapproves over 500 projects each year. These projects include signage, building remodels, and residential and commercial development • Worked with the Planning Commission in the review and approval of the Treasure Island Resort project and the Boat Canyon shopping center project
Telecommunications Committee	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides advice to City Council regarding cable TV service and technology in general • Publishes bimonthly community newsletter focusing on technology issues
Heritage Committee	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviews modifications to existing historic structures for consistency with the historic preservation ordinance • Organizes walking tours of historic homes, Heritage Month activities and celebrations in May
Housing and Human Affairs Committee	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided recommendations to the City Council regarding affordable housing at 450 Glenneyre and a day labor hiring site
Open Space Committee	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides recommendations to the City Council regarding open space use and preservation • Identified, catalogued and mapped an inventory of all city-owned property with emphasis on open space • Currently mapping City's trail system and updating Master Plan for hiking trails
Parking/Traffic/Circulation Committee	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a forum for residents and others to voice concerns regarding pedestrian and vehicular traffic and safety • Recommended cross walk for students at Thurston Middle School • Recommended an OCTA bus stop on Laguna Canyon Road to provide access to Laguna Coast Wilderness Park
Recreation Committee	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides recommendations to the City Council regarding parks and recreation facilities • Recent recommendations includes location of skateboard park; expanded use of play fields by local sports teams; addition of a community/senior center
HIV Advisory Committee	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informs City Council about HIV and AIDS issues in the community • Promotes educational and informative programs concerning HIV and AIDS health issues in the community to help ensure the provision of quality health care/medical and social services for people living with and people affected by HIV/AIDS