

The Week That Was^{TW2}

August 26 – August 30, 2024



1. Post-Summer Marine Safety Operations

Labor Day marks the conclusion of summer staffing for the Marine Safety Department, lifeguards will continue safeguarding Laguna Beach's residents and visitors throughout the fall, winter, and spring seasons. Lifeguards will remain stationed at key locations, including Aliso Beach, Camel Point, Crescent Bay, Main Beach, Ninth Street, Shaw's Cove, Table Rock, Tenth Street, Treasure Island, and Victoria Beach, whenever conditions allow.

Marine Safety field units will also continue to patrol all City beaches, offering rescue services, medical aid, prevention, and educational outreach to ensure the safety and enjoyment of all beachgoers.

For the latest surf and weather conditions, please call 949-494-6531.

2. Aliso Creek Estuary Restoration Project Update

The Planning Commission reviewed the Concept Review application for the Aliso Creek Estuary restoration project. The Planning Commission provide useful feedback for the applicant to consider when preparing for a formal application. A project update and policy touch point is tentatively scheduled for City Council on October 22, 2024.

3. Housing and Human Services Committee Update

At the August 28, 2024, Housing and Human Services Committee (HHSC) meeting, HHSC made two recommendations to City Council. First, HHSC recommended that the City Council direct the Community Development Department to narrow the Coastal Development Permit requirement to only Accessory Dwelling Units that exceed 12 or 16 feet in height. Second, HHSC recommended that the City Council assure that interested community members are actively engaged in every step of the creation of a Community Land Trust, especially with regards to finance, mission, and initial goals.

4. ADU Monitoring

In March 2024, Housing Program Coordinator Jennifer Savage presented the 2023 Housing Element Annual Progress Report (APR) to the City Council, highlighting substantial new activity in Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). However, there was a gap in the data regarding how many of these ADUs could be classified as affordable

housing. In response and as required by Housing Program 5.2-5d, Ms. Savage collaborated with Community Development to create a [form to track rent amounts for ADUs](#). This form is expected to play a key role in gathering rental data, which will be included in the 2024 APR, to be presented to the City Council in 2025. Community Development will request that applicants complete the form when applying for an ADU building permit.

5. Three-Hour Limit at Golf Cart Parking Spaces Citywide

This week, the Public Works & Utilities Department will begin installing signage indicating the recently adopted resolution establishing a three-hour limit at golf cart parking spaces. The resolution was recommended by the Parking, Traffic and Circulation Committee at the May 23, 2024, meeting and adopted by Council at the July 23, 2024, City Council Meeting. The three-hour parking limit is currently in effect and will be enforced as needed. For more information, please contact Josh McDonald, Associate Civil Engineer, at (949) 497-0711 or jmcdonald@lagunabeachcity.net.

6. New Sewer Manhole on Manzanita Drive

Last week, a contractor for the Public Works & Utilities Department completed the installation of a new manhole on Manzanita Drive that will allow crews to access a sewer line for maintenance operations. Complaints of strong odor were received from residents who are serviced by a sewer line previously thought to be a private lateral. After confirming the sewer lateral to be public, staff worked to determine the best solution for ongoing maintenance of the lateral and main. Assistant City Engineer Frank Lopez and Deputy Public Works Director Richard Gonzalez worked closely to coordinate this work.

7. Police Department Reports

Patrol Activity

- On Thursday, July 11, at 12:39 p.m., officers were dispatched to 800 block of Glenneyre Street for a robbery. The suspect was fighting with the reporting party when confronted. When the officers arrived, they saw the suspect fleeing the store and a foot pursuit ensued. An officer stopped him across the street, and he was identified as a local minor. After the parents were contacted, the store denied prosecution and the minor was returned to his parents.
- On Thursday, August 22, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. officers responded to a location in the 20000 block Laguna Canyon Road for a trespassing incident. The reporting party desired the female be escorted from the property by the officers. She left the property, but returned over an hour later and assaulted a male. She was arrested for the assault.
- At 6:41 p.m., officers took a report of a theft from a store in the 600 block of South Coast Hwy. The investigation revealed that around 1:50 p.m., a female suspect

distracted the victim who was loading her groceries in her trunk. While she was distracted, a second male suspect stole her wallet and cellphone from the purse on the driver's seat. The victim's credit card was used at a local jewelry store to purchase \$8,000 worth of jewelry.

- At 6:47 p.m., officers responded to the 20000 block of Laguna Canyon Road for a family disturbance. Officers located a male and female at the residence who had been engaged in a verbal altercation. The male subject left for the night.
- On Friday, August 23, 2024, at 1:46 a.m., an officer conducted a traffic enforcement stop. The driver was arrested after it was discovered he was in violation of a criminal restraining order against him, protecting the passenger.
- On Saturday, August 24, 2024, at 8:44 p.m., officers responded to Aliso Beach in reference to a missing 39-year-old male with schizophrenia. Officers conducted an extensive search and a couple hours later, the male subject was reunited with his family.
- On Sunday, August 25, 2024, at 2:14 p.m., officers responded to the area of the Sawdust Festival and Laguna Canyon Road for an intoxicated male subject getting in his vehicle. The male subject fled the area outbound Laguna Canyon Road. Officers located the vehicle and later arrested the male driver for DUI.
- On Monday, August 26, 2024, at 7:06 p.m., officers responded to Mission Hospital Laguna Beach in reference to a male patient who touched another female patient inappropriately. Officers arrived on scene and investigated the circumstances. Officers determined the male subject committed sexual battery and was placed under arrest. He was later transported to Orange County Jail.
- On Tuesday, August 27, 2024, at 8:52 p.m., an officer conducted a traffic enforcement stop in the area of 2200 Laguna Canyon Road. K-9 Sirius alerted on the vehicle and a search revealed a small amount of cocaine inside. The driver was issued a misdemeanor citation.

Sincerely,
Jeremy Frimond
Acting City Manager